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VRIEND RULING EXPECTED TO BENEFIT GAY STUDENTS

by Chris Miller

Gays and lesbians on the U of A campus will benefit from the ruling in the Delwin Vriend case, says Tamara Leigh, outgoing female co-chair of OUTreach.

"I was tremendously relieved," Leigh said.

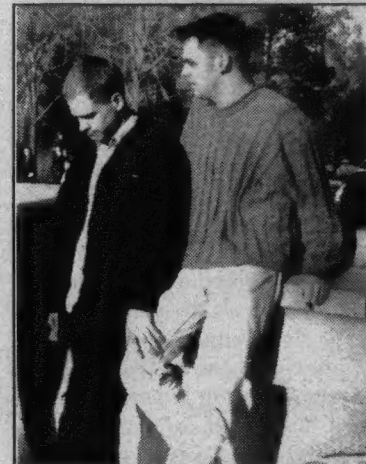
The ruling, handed down from the Supreme Court of Canada on April 2, effectively makes sexual orientation prohibited grounds for discrimination under the Alberta Human Rights, Citizenship, and Multiculturalism Act.

"It's a self-esteem thing and it's an awareness thing. This case has encouraged a lot of awareness in the straight community."

— Tamara Leigh
outgoing female co-chair of
OUTreach

This means one less worry for homosexual students as they graduate from university and enter the workforce, Leigh said, as there is now legal recourse if they are fired or refused work because of their sexual orientation.

The ruling also means gays and lesbians can't be denied housing because of their sexual



Photos by Chris Miller

Delwin Vriend, above left, with partner Andrew Gagnon last Thursday at the Legislature. About 500 people rallied to celebrate the Supreme Court ruling which protects homosexuals in Alberta from discrimination.

orientation. This will alleviate some stress for homosexual couples, said Leigh, who is in a long term relationship. "That has been a concern when we go looking for an apartment."

Vriend brought his case to court seven years ago after he was fired from King's College in Edmonton because of his homosexuality. Seeing someone challenge the Alberta government has been a boost for gays and les-

bians, said Leigh.

"It's a self-esteem thing and it's an awareness thing. This case has encouraged a lot of awareness in the straight community."

Vriend, who addressed about 500 supporters from the steps of the Legislature the day the ruling came down, said he was appalled with the government of Alberta for not offering protection in law for gays and lesbians.

"They have, for seven years,

whined and screamed and kicked and yelled all the way to the Supreme Court of Canada because they want to discriminate against their own citizens."

While government members declined to speak at the rally, Murray Billett, a director with Gay and Lesbian Awareness, read a statement from Premier Ralph Klein which said: "A government is made up of law-abiding citizens and we will obey the

law."

OUTreach is a gay and lesbian support, education and awareness group on the U of A campus.

About 75 people currently hold memberships in OUTreach, Leigh said, with twice that number, including alumni and staff, taking part in the organization's events during the year. The group is focused primarily on the U of A campus, she said.

Public Interest Research Group to be set up here

Group to be set up by year 2000 to offer non-partisan research into issues of public concern

by Neal Ozano

Students who want to do research free of government and corporate ties may be interested in a Public Interest Research Group (PIRG).

Last Thursday, student leaders and other interested people went to a meeting with Ralph Nader, an American activist who has set up similar groups in the United States and Eastern Canada.

According to Julie Harris, incoming vp external for the Graduate Students' Association, "a PIRG is basically an umbrella organization for social justice groups, environmental issues, [and] human rights issues," she said.

"If you are socially aware and concerned about some-

thing, you can get involved through the PIRG." Harris was involved with a PIRG while at McGill University.

"It provides a forum for students to do research on

"If you are socially aware and concerned about something, you can get involved through the PIRG."

— Julie Harris
incoming GSA vp external

what they want to do, and it provides links to the outside community," she said, adding that students could also gain practical experience in organizing events and taking part in

activities on campus. "It helps you with your resume, [because you can say], 'I have this involvement.'"

She believes that the PIRG will provide an alternative for students who want to get involved but don't want to organize the involvement themselves. With a PIRG, there will be a structure already in place.

PIRGs can also offer internship projects for credit through professors. One project at the McGill PIRG was an environmental investigation of a cyanide spill in a mine.

"It provided research for the PIRG, and credit for the student," said Harris.

She says that PIRGs are completely student-run.

"Student-run, student-

paid-for, students make the decisions."

"When you're just asking for a few dollars a student, and there's an opt-out clause in it, then I think the benefits far

"... [Corporations] have a vested interest. This is a public research interest group; the interest that this has is public."

— PIRG organizer Ayal Dinner

outweigh the costs," said Harris.

Ayal Dinner, one of the organizers, believes that the PIRG is a good way to have an objective study done, because

the funding comes from a non-partisan source.

"Most of the time, if you want to do research, you have to get grants from the government. Grants from there are really tough to get, so you go to corporations, but they have a vested interest," he said.

"This is a public research interest group; the interest that this has is public."

Organizers hope to take the PIRG funding to a student referendum in March, 1999. They will use the funding to start up in the summer of 2000.

Although it won't be official until the year 2000, organizers plan to do some work under the PIRG name to help raise the program's profile among students, said Dinner.

Quote for the Day:

"I'd give my right arm to be ambidexterous."

— Brian W. Kernighan

Not Ralph Klein: Ralph Nader was at the U of A last week, and he had a few things to say about health care.....**News, page 4**

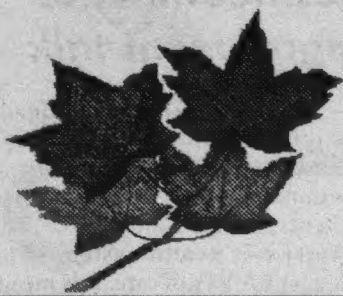
It's all here: One last Burlap Sack, letters, top 10 List and, of course, Opinion. Have a good summer.....**Opinion, pages 6 to 9**

Wide mouth talking: Wide Mouth Mason skin-basher Safwan Javed talks about stuff. He and the band will be here Thursday.....**Entertainment, page 11**

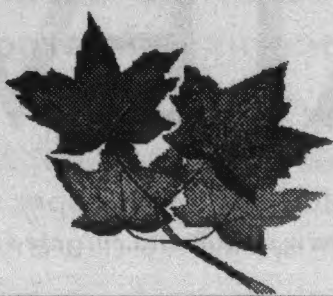
Colour Night: The U of A's top athletes were honoured Saturday night at Myer Horowitz theatre.....**Sports, page 16**



CAMPUS CONNECTION



NEWS AND
INFORMATION
FROM ACROSS THE
COUNTRY AND
AROUND THE
WORLD



Compiled by Chris Miller

Several Ontario students facing charges

Several University of Guelph students have been spending more time in a courtroom than in a classroom lately. Several proceedings have taken place over the past few weeks. Amanda Dorte received a \$55 fine under the Province's Trespass to Property Act Wednesday, March 18. Dorte was one of two students charged during a demonstration last November 5 for refusing to leave the doorway of the U of G library. The two chained themselves between the doors to symbolize the increasing inaccessibility of education.

Tom Keefer and Richard Brooks appeared before the University's Judicial Committee on March 8 and again on March 16. They were charged by campus security for allegedly causing damage to University property by illegally putting up posters. Keefer argued that the allegations are of a political nature because he and Brooks are both recognizable to the campus police as political activists and organizers. Keefer raised several objections about items of evidence which were submitted by the prosecution but were not enclosed in the student's disclosure package. A date for a continuance in the matter has yet to be set.

Jen Cutts
University of Guelph
The Ontario

Coalition set up at Carleton

A new coalition of students, faculty and campus unions held a town hall meeting March 10 to galvanize opposition to the direction taken by Carleton University and the Ontario government. The coalition consists of unions representing Carleton's support staff, faculty and teaching assistants, and the undergraduate students' association. Irene Harris, vice-president of the Ontario Federation of Labour, was also on hand. The coalition was formed to oppose tuition increases, staff layoffs and academic cuts. Undergrads

were represented at the meeting by Carleton University Students' Association president Heidi Van Dyk. Van Dyk said that with the pressure from administration and the provincial government, solidarity is crucial. "It's essential now, more than ever, that we stand together as a community and send a clear message."

Carleton president Richard Van Loon said he hasn't been asked to join the coalition. "I may have been invited to that meeting to stand in the back, but that's it," Van Loon said. As for the coalition's assertion that Carleton had options other than program closures and layoffs, Van Loon said he's trying to make the best of a bad situation. "It's not as if it's a pleasure to cut programs and lay people off," said Van Loon.

Jeff Jedras
Carleton University
The Charlantan

Deal reached at Dalhousie

Contract negotiations between Dalhousie University and its professors may still be up in the air, but an agreement has been reached between the Dalhousie administration and its part-time instructors and teaching assistants. The new contract was approved by 97 per cent of the members of the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) local 3912 who voted on March 19. Although the turnout was relatively low, Mike Earle, secretary-treasurer for CUPE 3912, is happy an agreement has been reached. "We certainly didn't get everything we wanted, nor are our pay levels brought up to comparable figures with rates paid elsewhere in Canada, but we have made a good beginning," Earle said.

The biggest accomplishment in the eyes of the union is that the collective agreement was achieved at all three universities — Dalhousie, Saint Mary's and Mount Saint Vincent. The next step for the union is to wait for the agreement to be ratified by Dalhousie's Board of Governors. The time and date of the ratification is unknown by either side. All three universities' contracts end on August 31, 2000. With the ratification of its first collective agreement in sight, the next chal-

lenge facing union members is the Dalhousie Faculty Association (DFA) strike that began Wednesday, Mar. 25.

Paul Mansfield
Dalhousie University
The Gazette

Management profs need more money

The search for corporate money to top up the University of Calgary's Faculty of Management's professorial salaries is on in light of a reaccreditation requirement in the year 2001. A clause in the University of Calgary's collective agreement, which regulates faculty pay, allows faculties to argue for a "market supplement." In this case, the faculty would like to increase salaries to a level equitable with trends at other Canadian universities. Under the agreement, the university can allow the faculty to do this if they can come up with their own funding.

"The market supplement program can be paid only when there are market pressures in the academic setting," said U of C vice-president academic Ronald Bond. The faculty is seeking to use the scheme to improve their chances of being re-accredited by the American Assembly of Collegiate Schools of Business. The Faculty of Management will be up for a 10-year review in 2001. Only four Canadian schools are currently members: the U of C, the University of Alberta, Laval University, and Concordia.

"You can imagine what the U of A would say if we lost our accreditation," said faculty of Management associate dean of Planning and Development Malcolm Munro. He said the faculty needs to look at all aspects of its programs, but the major stumbling block to reaccreditation will be the loss of faculty.

"Over the last several years we've lost 22 faculty and we've hired only six," said Munro, adding that a highly competitive market, especially in the U.S., is luring professors away.

Val Jepson
University of Calgary
The Gauntlet

Student insurance package offered

by Chris Miller
Insurance rates got you down? Talk to Bill Smith.

Smith, general manager of the SU and Canadian Campus Business Consortium board chair, said most students could find some savings on auto insurance through a new program called Insurance 101.

CCBC started searching last year for a company to work with to offer students better insurance rates. DirectProtect was chosen and the auto insurance package was announced March 30.

While many companies are hesi-

tant to offer lower rates to university-aged drivers, Smith said he recognizes that accidents do happen and doesn't want to see people penalized unfairly.

"[We said] don't hit them in the back of the head with a two-by-four if they have an accident."

With 1.3 million people in post-secondary institutions, Smith said companies are increasingly looking at students as a potential market. Because they represent a future clients, insurance companies are trying to grab students' attention. But how much students could save with student-focused packages like Insurance

101 will depend on each individual case, he said.

"It varies wildly," said Smith. "We've seen rates all over the map that students are paying now." However, Smith said he believes most students could save through the new program.

CCBC is made up of 20 student associations across Canada. "We're one of the founding members of CCBC. It's a business consortium owned by students' associations," said Smith. He added that property insurance packages should be available by September. For more information, call 1-800-810-4990.



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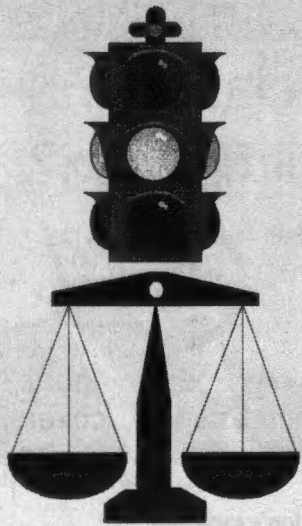
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Amber Dean**BARLOW QUESTIONS MAI****Head of the Council of Canadians cites health care concerns in international investment agreement talk**

by Raechel Carpenter

Maude Barlow believes in fighting the clean fight in her social activism. Very, very clean.

"Fighting for social justice is like taking a bath ... you have to do it every day, or you start to smell," said Barlow Friday evening during an address at the Myer Horowitz theatre.

"I don't really honestly think to this day that they thought anybody would read it."— Council of Canadians chair
Maude Barlow

Barlow, chair of the Council of Canadians, was the second keynote speaker in the Parkland Institute's symposium on public health care. Barlow's speech addressed the Multilateral Agreement on Investment and its threat to Canada's public health system.

Gordon Laxer, director of the Parkland Institute, said in his introduction of the activist: "Even though Preston Manning has moved into Stornoway, it's hard to think of him as an actual opposition [to the federal government]. There is an opposition in Canada, and Maude Barlow is its leader."

He lauded Barlow's many ac-

complishments, including building the Council of Canadians, a public interest group, into a flourishing public interest agency.

She said the MAI debate is developing into a debate about democracy.

"I can't find anybody on the other [yes] side who has read it, and that includes [minister of International Trade minister] Sergio Marchi," said Barlow.

However, she is surprised with the amount of knowledge the general public seems to have about the MAI. "An amazing amount of people know about this agreement."

According to Barlow, the public outcry about this proposed agreement is stunning its authors. "I don't really honestly think to this day that they thought anybody would read it," she said.

Barlow fears that health care would be hurt if the MAI, or a similar policy, were ever enacted. The MAI could potentially open up privatized areas in provincial health care to foreign investors, who could choose to follow the lowest standards from anywhere in the country, regardless of the standards maintained in that province.

There are also provisions in the MAI that could make it difficult to introduce new standards at any level of government.

Barlow worries that Canada might eventually follow the American model of health care — a move she feels would be detrimental to all Canadians. "The American health system is no longer for health care, it is meant solely to make money."

It doesn't look like the MAI is going anywhere fast, though.

"The American health system is no longer for health care, it is meant solely to make money."— Council of Canadians chair
Maude Barlow

The American government, alone, must deal with over a thousand pages of concerns before it can resume negotiations, a fact which delights Barlow. "I think the citizens of the world can be proud about the way we have bogged down this proposed agreement," she said at the end of her speech.

Barlow ended her address on a happy note. "This is the most hopeful I have ever felt. I absolutely believe this is the beginning of the turn-around period. It will probably take us the rest of our lives to even begin what we have to do, but then, what else have we got to do?"

Big bucks from Bombardier**Company kicks in \$500,000 for bilingual business professorship**

by Chris Miller

The company that produced the first snowmobile is now giving \$500,000 to North America's first bilingual Bachelor of Commerce program — here at the U of A.

Bombardier Inc. announced on April 2 it would fund a new professorship, hoped to start in September, in the bilingual Bachelor of Commerce program.

"We have something that is unique ... in the Canadian context and the international context," said Michael Percy, dean of the faculty of Business.

Faculté St. Jean dean Claudette Tardif said students enrolled in the bilingual program would spend their first two years at the Faculté and their last two at the faculty of Business. When completed, students would have an undergraduate degree in Bilingual Bachelor of Commerce/Baccalauréat bilingue en administration des affaires.

The \$500,000 grant, to be made over five years, will fund a new professorship specializing in entrepreneurship. Percy said finding someone to fill the position may take time, as the faculties need someone with a strong background in entrepreneurial teaching and research, who is also fluent in both English and French.

"We're in full search mode," said Percy.

Asked when the new professorship would commence, Percy said, "Our hope would be for



Michael Percy



Claudette Tardif

"We have something that is unique ... in the Canadian context and the international context."

— Michael Percy, dean of Business.

September 1," but added that it may not start until later, depending on how soon a qualified professor can be found to fill the position.

University President Rod Fraser, along with Tardif and Percy, met with Bombardier representatives in August 1997, Tardif explained. She said the idea of a bilingual business program was appealing to the company, which directs three per cent of its gross income toward health, education and arts programs through the J. Armand Bombardier Foundation.

André Bombardier, vice

chair of the board for Bombardier Inc., agreed. "What we do at Bombardier is we let people come out with their own ideas and if it makes sense, we support them with our investment."

He said his company had to be both bilingual and entrepreneurial in order to expand into markets outside of Quebec. Since the new U of A program focuses on both areas, there was good reason to support it, he said. "It has to be that way, because that's our history."

If it proves to be successful, funding for the program could be renewed after five years.

A SYSTEM IN TURMOIL

AMERICAN HEALTH CARE SYSTEM ONLY SERVES THE HEALTH INDUSTRY: NADER

We in the United States have been struggling with corporate greed in our health-care industry, and are going through one major wretched experience after another."

—Ralph Nader

Nader said that the United States is currently making a transition from fees-for-service healthcare to managed care. He criticized the old system for giving "more capacity, too many operations, too many of everything."

Managed care, the other extreme of private health care, is dominated by giant nationwide Health Maintenance Organizations (HMOs) and hospital chains. One of the bigger conglomerates owns 355 hospitals. Nader said that this gigantic HMO is deep in legal troubles for fraud and corruption.

"This is one example of a massive company buying up a hospital every week, subjecting these hospitals to rigorous commercial protocols that restrict the independent professional judgment of the doctors in hospitals, and, in effect, raising the question as to whether corporations can practice medicine without a license, because it's the corporation that's practicing the medicine by telling the doctors and nurses what they can do," said Nader.

He believes Alberta is heading down the same path the United States' system has. Two years ago, the Alberta branch of the Canadian Consumer Association put out a report, which Nader quoted: "Alberta's public insurance plan is rapidly moving towards a private insurance model, which includes features such as co-payments, deductibles and user fees. ...These changes signal the emergence of increasingly two-tiered medical systems which have created inflationary prices."

He says that Americans have been envious of Canadian health care for a long time.

"Even compared to the German, British, and other systems, the Canadian system allows the free choice of doctor and hospital, and it has maintained a comprehensiveness which only recently has begun to be restricted and chipped

away at."

He went on to say that for only 10 per cent of the Canadian GNP, our health system is comprehensive from "cradle to nursing home." The American system spends 15 per cent of GNP on health care, but 42 million people, including 12 million children, did not have health insurance.

"25 million more were so under-insured that you could hardly say that they were insured. And the rest were insured under fine print that spelled 'fine print, exclusions and deductibles, co-payments, waiting periods, grace-systems, et cetera. More and more people have no choice of doctor and hospital. They go to the doctor and hospital that their HMO plan commands them to go to."

Nader also said that even the people who are being covered are threatened by the corporatization of medicine and incompetence in the ailing American system.

"[HMOs'] priorities are: cut costs, marginalize care, tell doctors and nurses what they can and can not do, give them bonuses if they don't do anything, and take all the savings." He said that the savings go straight into managerial salaries.

Nader quoted statistics that said that 80,000 people died in the American system.

"80,000 people dying does not include the ones that died in emergency rooms, [and] does not include the ones that died in inner-city clinics that are grotesque, or in doctor offices. 80,000 dying could be compared with homicides, motor vehicle deaths, and fire deaths."

He believes that one of the worst parts of the American system is the insurance required to pay for it.

"[Health insurance companies] come into the commercial market place with the following message: we are entering into this market-place because it is wasteful and inefficient."

"Corporate greed is infinite and knows few boundaries except the rule of law, and strong consumer organization, law enforcement of regulations, quality competition, trade unions, and all the other counter-forces."

AN AMERICAN WITH HIS EYE ON ALBERTA HEALTH CARE

Ralph Nader spoke on the deterioration and potential privatization of the Alberta Health Care System at the Myer Horowitz Theatre on Thursday.

Nader has been a household name since the mid-1960's when he took on the American auto makers and their safety standards. He was instrumental in the creation of the American Occupational and Health Administration, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Consumer Product Safety Commission, and the Centre for Auto Safety. He was chosen by *Time Magazine* as one of the most influential people of the 20th century.

Nader's published works include *Unsafe at any Speed*, which incited a national upheaval in the American auto industry, and *Canada First*, which dealt with Canada's first-place position in the

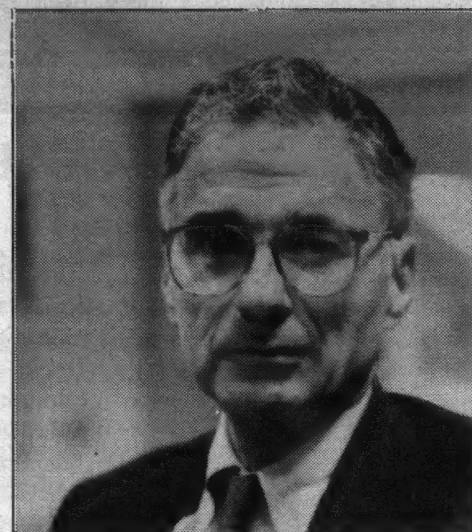


photo by Chris Miller

United Nation's rankings.

In this *Gateway* feature, News editor Neal Ozano explains Ralph Nader's views on the threat to public health care in Alberta.

ALBERTA'S SYSTEM FOLLOWING UNITED STATES CALAMITY?

Nader thinks this may be the case

According to Ralph Nader, the Alberta government has been planning for health privatization for a long time. He can see it when he looks at the upcoming Bill 37.

"Bill 37 ... which is now pending in your [Legislature], is designed to license private health care facilities. But its real purpose is to start licensing private hospitals," said Nader.

"Why would you need private hospitals in a province that has public hospitals?" he asked. "When the public hospitals don't have enough beds, when [health care workers] don't have enough equipment, when they're squeezed, that's where the demand comes from for private hospitals."

This causes the system to flounder, and people lose faith in it, or are pushed out altogether, said Nader.

"It's like bad money driving out good money. As the system deteriorates and collapses in the public area, more and more people are driven by necessity or otherwise, to the corporate area." The people who are left behind are the poor, chronically ill, and high-risk patients.

Nader believes that the provincial government has used the '70s and '80s oil boom as an excuse to cut deeply into the health care system, since an above-average number of beds was created during those times.

"Overall, there was an over-capacity of beds. Apparently, the capacity that some people accept is 2.4 beds per 1,000 people, and you had about 4.4 beds. But what that began, instead of being a legitimate reform, it was revealed to be a pretext to swing from one extreme all the way to the other. You're down to 1.74 beds per 1,000. There's nothing more frustrating for people who want to help people who are ill and the facilities are tied up, in terms of supplies."

He also believes that the Alberta system is under-funded, percentage-wise.

"You are now at 9 per cent of your GNP for health care nation-wide," said Nader. But he said Alberta uses about 5 per cent.

"You can not deliver health care in 1998, a universal, accessible, comprehensive framework (as laws require), for five per cent. I mean, in my country, we're triple that, and look what's happened."

He believes that the cuts are part of a plan to push privatization onto Albertans.

"Under-investment created crises, planned

under-investment created planned crises, and if you strip-mine and starve and squeeze the system, you're going to get internal demoralization, some people want to get out, and you get more public disgruntlement, and it begins to spread like a grapevine."

He quoted some statistics that brought the situation into perspective.

"Notice: last year is the first year that the average life expectancy in Alberta declined. Now, this may be just a statistical jiggle, or it could be that a few people have died because they couldn't get the health facilities in time. It could be that the inadequate care because of an overload. Whatever it is, that is a dangerous reversal, and it might just be a one-year situation, but it's very important to watch it carefully."

But the solution is simple, according to Nader. It involves money the province already has.

"You have to adequately invest in public health care system. Period. You have severe dis-investment, you have now a big surplus; by law, half of it has to go to reduce the debt, and some of that money has got to come back into the system."

Favoritism of corporations and "corporate welfare" has caused a deficit, according to Nader, but regular people are the first to suffer when the axe comes down.

"Here is a party that, for 25 years, has been giving away all kinds of corporate welfare benefits including loan forgiveness, loan deferrals to those poor little corporations who overextended their avarice, and they turn around and they say 'we've got big deficits, and we've got to cut.' So where do they cut? Do they cut corporate welfare? Do they say to those big corporations 'no more subsidies, no more giveaways. No more cheap rates on [stumpage fees]? No. They go after the unorganized, they go after the defenseless. They go after the health-care system."

He believes that the best way to motivate Albertans to protect their system is to show them what's left of the American one.

"Truckloads and busloads of Albertans should go down to the United States, and talk with their counterparts, and then come roaring back with a level of civic motivation that would shock even the most immodest Canadian."

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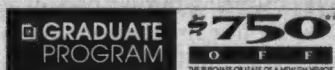
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OPINION

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Editorial

Whither Gateway?

I hated the Gateway when I first started university. I enjoyed the work I was doing as a fledgling news writer, but I thought the rest of the paper was poorly written and shoddily edited. Most of the staff never seemed to do any work, and the writers were all self-indulgent and out of touch with the real world.

Last year's editor-in-chief, Chris Jackel, did a lot of work to change that. He picked a staff that wanted to raise the quality of the paper, and I think we did a pretty good job. And when I became editor-in-chief, I wanted to put as much distance as possible between my Gateway and the old Gateway. I wanted to turn every student on campus into a devoted, admiring reader. My ultimate goal was for the Gateway to be respected as a serious newspaper.

I quickly realized that my plans were overly ambitious. I also realized that the ghost of the old Gateway would be harder to shake than I thought. Student journalists are usually young iconoclasts who like partying hard and taking extreme positions. Needless to say, I wasn't very successful in imposing Globe and Mail-esque standards on a publication read primarily for TLFs and Space Moose.

I soon realized that I had come full circle. The same sorts of criticisms that I had lobbed at the Gateway in my first year were now being thrown back in my face. Despite our improvements, the University community still saw us as "self-pandering," "sensationalistic," and "obscene."

None of us are professionals, and the paper is often sloppier and less intelligent than I wanted it to be. Some of our editorial decisions are stupid and care-

less because we lack the decades of experience it takes to run a newspaper flawlessly. Gradually, I began to notice that there were more similarities between my staff and the "old guard" than I cared to admit. I realized that I couldn't continue to criticize them for faults that I, too, had within myself.

It's been difficult for me to accept that I have failed to fully implement my vision for the paper. I've spent the past year analyzing every single nuance conveyed through these pages and believe me, no one is more acutely aware of our failings than I am.

At the same time, however, I don't think we've gotten the recognition we deserve for the advances we have made. Doesn't anybody else remember the days when a crudely drawn phallus counted as an opinion piece? Today's Gateway is substantially better than it was two years ago. Although the devil-may-care attitude from the old days still lingers, there is now a serious work ethic and a commitment to the basic principles of journalism that wasn't there when I started.

The most important thing I realized is that the spirit of this paper will live on long after my name and contributions have been forgotten. The Gateway is more than a newspaper. It is an opportunity for each of us to test our wings and discover our potential for greatness. And with each new generation of editors, the paper will grow stronger and more vibrant. The paper is yours, Nathaniel Fairbairn. I have done my best to give you and your staff a solid foundation upon which to build your dreams.

Rose Yewchuk
Editor-in-chief

Contributors

Robocop, Spider-man, Jizz Cookies, David Stiles, Wade Spazzfuck, Jason Pearson, Barrie Tanner, Sensei Priegert, Jamal Mansour, Shandra Doran, Christie Tucker, Dan Lazin, April Fool, Raechel Carpenter, Mike Pearson, Dave Alexander x2, Graham SUPERCOOL FUCKING CAPTAIN BITMAPPY Bakay, Eugene Lee, Karen Liebel, Craig Corbett, Don Iveson, Iain Ilich



Letters to the Editor

Hockey stick to the chops

The writer of April 2nd's Burlap Sack in the Gateway is the winner of this week's hockey stick to the chops, because of his/her ignorance towards the issue of the "flag flap." The issue, as Preston Manning put it, is "freedom of speech." However, it's in regards to an elected member's freedom to be heard in Parliament during question period. Had the MPs (Liberal and Reform) not waved the flags during their rendition of "Oh Canada" and simply left them on their desk, Parent would have had no choice but to allow the flags to stay. If he didn't allow them to stay, I'm sure the Tories, NDs, and Liberals would have supported Reform in a vote of non-confidence.

But they had to use them as a prop and a tool to hinder Suzanne Tremblay's freedom of speech. It was the Reformers and a minority of Liberals who brought on the entire flag flap and hindered the rights of themselves and future MPs to place flags on their desks.

Jon Tegtmeyer
Education II

Faculty elections not so pathetic

As the president of the faculty association for Education, I feel it is my

responsibility to correct the article titled "Faculty election turnout pathetic." I cannot speak on behalf of other faculty associations, but I can say that it is unfair to judge an association based on voter turnout.

Education did not have an election this year; however, it was not due to a lack of effort on our part. To imply that the large faculties did not "bother" to hold elections is unfair. Many associations try to hold elections and when they do (with low turnout), they get blamed. What about voter accountability?

I did run a presidential campaign last year and we had a voter turnout of around 175. Where Mr. Ozano failed in his article is that in Education, only members of the association can vote. We had 1500 members with over three quarters of them out in a school based practicum. Therefore, with only 500 members on campus, our turnout was encouraging.

I, along with my entire executive and council, take our responsibilities very seriously. Just because I was acclaimed does not mean that I am any less accountable to education students than I was last year from being elected. In an age when the average student is going to school full time, working, and volunteering, it is unrealistic to expect a faculty association to run an election for every available position. Maybe the Gateway can start renting out the Space Girls to give us some competition in order to make us less "pathetic." Hey Space Moose ... where are you when we need you?

Karen Dackiw

President, ESA

Editor's note: The Gateway had absolutely nothing to do with either the Space Girls campaign or the Space Moose campaigns.

A call to invoke the notwithstanding clause

The Supreme Court Vriend ruling is not simply a homosexual issue. More importantly, it is an issue that has to do with 9 appointed officials creating laws in areas in which our elected representatives have no say.

Is this the kind of country we want to live in? Where a group that is accountable to no one makes the laws that you and I must obey. Especially when these laws will have far-reaching consequences in the areas of public education, private education, family law, pension and spousal benefit law, and community life in general.

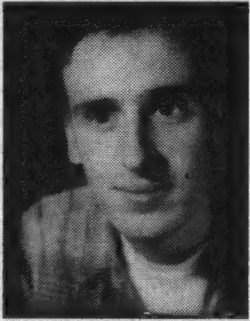
Because of the seriousness of this issue and the undemocratic way it came about (has our country turned into a dictatorship?), we say, "Ralph!" Let the people decide!

Invoke the notwithstanding clause and give us a referendum so we can have our say!

James Lantz, Bcom
Michael Knight, BPE
Chris Glubish, Bcom
Ryan Pede, Bcom
Ryan Hastman, Arts
Jeff Korzan, Eng Phys

Democracy in Canada needs changing

On the cuff



by David Stiles

Government in Canada is a farce of democracy. Just look at the news for evidence. The federal government is about to sign the MAI. Why? Because it can. Because hardly anyone knows about it and the government isn't talking. Because big businesses want it to and nobody can overpower their influence. Our provincial government continues to amaze Albertans with its ridiculously simplistic stances on important matters such as VLTs, sterilization victims and gay rights.

So why do we keep getting irresponsible governments who run dictatorships for several years before somehow managing to win re-elections? How can Ralph Klein threaten to call his fellow Albertans "communists" if they don't coop-

erate with him, but remain confident of victory in the next elections? It's simple — our superficially democratic electoral system is severely flawed. It's as rigged as any system can be.

First, we don't have a system of proportional representation and we would almost certainly be better off if we did have one. In fact, we are the only one of three western "democracies" which doesn't have such a system. The United States and Great Britain, those great symbols of international domination, are the others. If we were to adopt such a system, parties would be assigned seats based on their share of the popular vote. In the current Canadian system, a party can receive a substantial part of the popular vote and still be almost completely shut out of the legislature. In addition, the government party can change electoral boundaries in order to isolate pockets of support for opposing parties, thereby improving their chances of staying in power. It also dramati-

... our superficially democratic electoral system is severely flawed. It's as rigged as any system can be.



cally decreases the chance that the small parties will get any seats.

This system will never change unless the citizens stand up and demand it. Naturally, the leading parties will be reluctant to support change because the status quo benefits them. As many of you may recall, the Reform party used to support the idea of proportional representation. Now that Reform is well established, however, it has changed its tune and withdrawn its support. Klein's government is also unlikely to support the idea of true proportional representation. After all, if everyone's vote was equal in the electoral process, all of Ralph's so-called "communist" enemies might just get enough votes together to turf him out of office.

The party system itself also presents us with a number of prob-

lems. The Canadian political landscape is dominated by a whole bunch of extremist political parties and none of them offer a platform which I can say I really like. In Canada, policies set by party leaders dominate government. This makes governments far less responsive to people's needs than they should be. How effectively can my representative address my concerns if he or she is forced to do whatever their fat, beer drinking and philistine high school dropout (not in reference to any particular Alberta premier) of a party leader tells them to?

We've been tricked into voting indirectly for parties when our true democratic responsibility should be to elect our favorite candidate in our particular riding. Our decisions should be based on their individual stances on major issues,

not on their pre-fabricated explanation of their party's policies. Simply put, we technically vote for MLAs and MPs, but what really runs through most people's minds is which party leader they are voting for. The individual candidates are effectively reduced to mindless automatons who spew redundant political rhetoric. In the last provincial election, legions of right wing rednecks were mobilized to vote for whichever candidate had "Ralph's Team" stamped on his or her campaign material. They would probably have voted for Howard Stern if he put the word Conservative beside his name on the ballot.

The simple fact of the matter is that we need to make changes. We can retain the party system but make it more democratic by instituting a system of proportional representation or — and I believe that this is preferable — we can simply do away with political parties altogether. After all, civic and territorial governments (for example, the Yukon Territory) don't have parties and they seem to manage very well without irresponsible and dictatorial political monkeys trying to impose their own personal policies on huge populations. Regardless of which method is used, though, it's about time that we stood up and took back the governments which were supposed to be ours to begin with.

Letters to the Editor continued

Law troubles those who don't condone homosexuality

In response to the article regarding "Gay rights in the balance," I hope and pray that Alberta will continue to have the great honour of being the province to set a good example for all the other provinces to follow by using the notwithstanding clause to override the Supreme Court's decision.

Mr. Vriend believes there are "bigots" or "ignorant people" who have positions of power, yet he does not tell us their names. I can assume that some of them are MLAs, so why not give their names so when these "bigots" run for office in the next election, the voters will be more informed.

As for changing attitudes through education, I suppose if I am feeling upset about the amount of taxes I pay to the federal government, Big Brother (i.e. Jean Chretien et al.) will just have me brought in for "mental reconditioning" and release me after my "attitude adjustment" has been completed.

If Mr. Vriend wishes to educate us about the difficulties that homosexuals experience, then why did

he not tell us who refused him an apartment? He seemed to have no problem telling us about the Christian Reformed Church that caused him to have concerns. (Could that have been Leviticus 20 verse 13 that caused his discomfort?) I do not want Alberta to become like Sodom and Gomorrah so I must protest the inclusion of "sexual orientation" in our Human Rights Act.

I am assuming that the homosexuals would like to continue to add "pro-homosexual" books and content into the curriculum for elementary students since it is better to get them "informed" when they are so young! I will, therefore, not be putting any of the children God blesses me with into any school that promotes or condones the homosexual lifestyle. My children and I will also discuss any information that they may encounter (as any loving parent would).

Mr. Vriend said that "changing the law does not legislate attitude: you can only legislate actions." I am pleased that Mr. Vriend has acknowledged that attitudes can not be changed by laws. Unfortunately, the law can make life difficult for those whose religious beliefs do not condone homosexuality. How can the inclusion of "sexual orientation" in the Human Rights Act not "trample on the rights of the religious groups" when a

Christian College cannot fire an individual who is openly homosexual?? I guess I define trample differently than Mr. Vriend does. It leaves me wondering, if a Muslim or Jewish school fired a Christian convert, would there have even been an issue made or a court case initiated?

Wendell Ellis
Engineering IV

The Gateway acknowledges that the previous letter may be construed as homophobic, but we felt it was important that our readers see that opinions like these continue to be held by some University students.

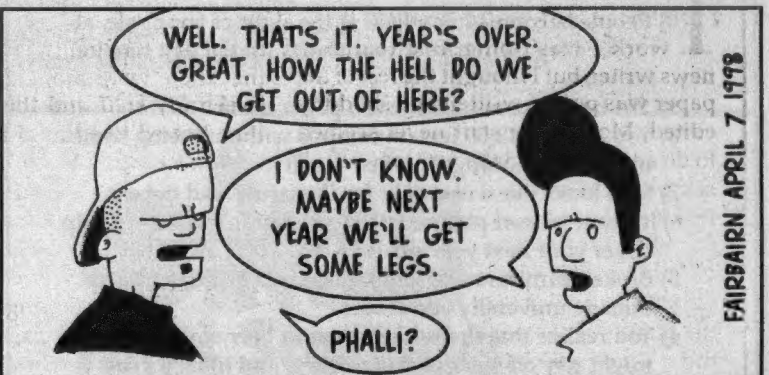
That's it. Done.

Well, it's over. No more letters to the editor, no more opinion pieces, cartoons ("political" or otherwise), no more features, editorials or top ten lists. Stick a fork in me. I'm done.

I did my best to make my section contain something for everyone and to not let my own opinions dictate the voice of the paper. I give up the position knowing that I didn't cut many corners and leave the section better than I came to it.

Enough cheese. Thursday is the joke issue. No one is safe. Be afraid. Be very afraid.

Nathan Fairbairn
Managing Editor,
The Gateway, 1997-98



FAIRBAIRN APRIL 7 1998

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Plane crashes, psychopaths, and cigarettes



Mike Pearson

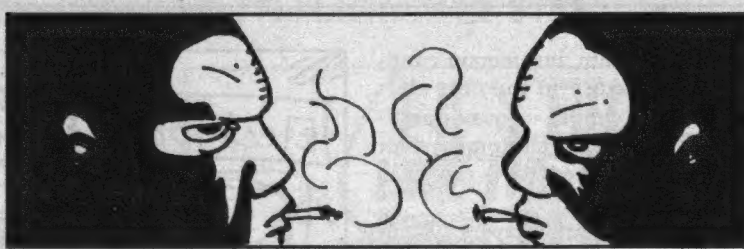
Ted Bundy, Jeffrey Dahmer, Paul Bernardo, Pan Am Flight 103, and TWA Flight 800. Ring a bell? They should. If anything, you're probably groaning, wishing you'd heard the last of these ancient news events. Not to worry: I won't dwell on them. I only wish to point out what they have in common. Collectively, they are responsible for the deaths of hundreds of innocent people. Our

society will be scarred forever by these senseless losses.

Whatever.

Look, it's not that I'm an overly insensitive guy, it's just that, relatively speaking, death by psychopaths and plane crashes is not the paragon of needless death that we make it out to be. There is a far greater epidemic at hand — far more serious than any faulty cargo door, terrorist, or axe-wielding maniac. There exists an industry that is so vilely corrupt that it makes money by killing people. No, this isn't the work of Lex Luthor or Doctor Doom or anything as fanciful as that. You need only take a walk around campus (or virtually any designated smoking area) to know what I'm talking about. Oops, did I give it away? That's right, I'm talking about the tobacco industry.

Now before you stop reading, thinking I'm about to shovel out a whole bunch of facts about how smoking is bad for you, you should know that this is not my intent. Everybody already knows smoking is bad for you (I mean, hell, it's written pretty explicitly on all the



packets). My personal aversion to smoking has nothing to do with health, but rather, with my hatred of the corrupt tobacco industry.

Here's an industry that makes billions by selling poison for human consumption.

Here's an industry that targets youth knowing that those who start young are more likely to smoke longer.

Here's an industry that is responsible for the deaths of hundreds of thousands of people annually.

Here's the industry that you support every time you light up a cigarette.

While it may seem like an overstatement to say that the tobacco industry makes money from killing people, it is the truth. Cigarettes are

the *only* consumer products that *kill* the consumer when used *exactly* as intended by the manufacturer. You may also be thinking, "ya, but whether or not to smoke is really the choice of the individual." True. I acknowledge this, but so do the cigarette manufacturers.

The tobacco industry (just like the aforementioned super-villains) is no dummy. They realize that getting addicted to the poison they

Cigarettes are the only consumer products that kill the consumer when used exactly as intended by the manufacturer.

sell is not particularly enticing. That's why they target youths. Tobacco companies exploit adolescents' vulnerability to suggestion by attaching a rebellious image to smoking. Ironically, in wanting to be rebellious, young people become victims. I sympathize with those parents who are helpless to protect their children from the ever-present pressure to smoke which plagues our schools. Sadly, about one in three of those who start smoking before the age of 18 will eventually die from a smoking-related illness.

Smoking kills. In America, it is responsible for more than 400,000 deaths a year (sorry patriots, I couldn't dig up the stats for Canada). Let's put this number into perspective. 400,000 deaths would be like three fully loaded jumbo jets crashing every day with no survivors. It would be like a serial killer killing ten people a day for 110 years. And this is only the figure for the States alone in a single year! Kind of makes Ted Bundy or Pan Am Flight 103 look sort of insignificant, doesn't it?



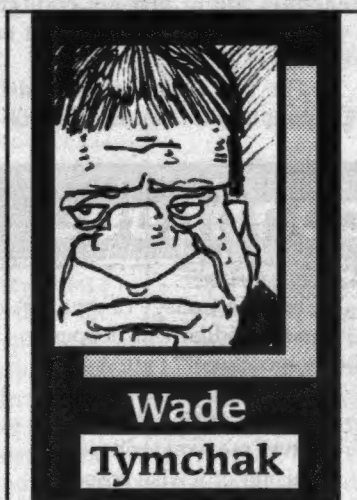
top ten

Top Ten signs it's the End of Second Semester

- 10) People become violently ill at the sight of your pale, atrophied legs when you wear shorts for the first time of the year.
- 9) The best summer job left is a paper route.
- 8) You can't walk 50 feet on campus without seeing someone selling hotdogs for their faculty.
- 7) SUB looks like a campout for Grateful Dead tickets.
- 6) It's time to start planning that gas station hold-up to help cover your next year's tuition.
- 5) Broken furniture and Christmas trees begin to pile up outside university residences.
- 4) You realize that the refund on your beer empties just might pay off your parking tickets and library fines.
- 3) Exam stress has brought your total number of ulcers to a baker's dozen.
- 2) Rod Fraser is preparing to travel somewhere on that hard-earned vacation he deserves.
- 1) No one has time to write for the school newspaper, so they're forced to use crappy top ten lists as filler.

by Dave Alexander

Words from the weary



Wade Tymchak

Four years ago, I arrived on campus as a shy, reserved Arts student who came from an Alberta county with a population less than the enrollment of the Faculty of Arts. Now, let's just say that I'm so far removed from being shy and reserved that my mouth, and pen, have got me into more trouble than Homer Simpson at a beer convention.

University has been the biggest catalyst for this transformation. University is more than just



an education in science or arts or engineering, and it's more than an education in life. It's a growth process that touches every aspect of your life.

What I'm about to tell you isn't a blueprint on how to go through university, it's just an example of what you can gain from university. There are just too many different ways to get the most from the university experience for me to start telling you what is good or bad, or even desirable. There is no one way to live your life in the university context. However, there are some general rules that can be followed.

Most everything I did in the last four years can be traced back to three events that occurred in my

first year. I volunteered at the *Gateway*, roomed with my best friend from high school, and took Ukrainian 100. Right about now, you're probably going "What the hell ... I could have been counting the hairs on my feet instead of swallowing this raw sewage." Yet, I really do have a point. Here's an example; because I volunteered at the *Gateway* — and very avidly, I might add — I rose to the position of sports editor which thrust me into a variety of relationships which have created numerous friendships and opportunities for which I will forever be grateful. (Before getting hired, I assumed that competency was a requirement of all editors. Apparently, however, it is not.)

Get it? The point, then, is that if you take chances and get involved in various activities, you will undoubtedly be exposed to a great number of people and opportunities. (Note to students: this is the best way to make life-long friends and connections without paying \$400 to join a frat). Coming from a small town where it was impossible to avoid anyone, I became extremely self-conscious. However, at university, I quickly learned that there are far too many people in the world to worry about what a few ignorant bastards think. It's all a matter of putting yourself in a position to meet the people that will change your life: socially, emotionally, intellectually, and professionally.

Anyway, that's what I learned in four years of sleeping through Classics and Political Science courses (my Latin prof can vouch for that). Put it to good use.

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(opt-out forms will be available at all Info Booths starting from May 4)

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Government homophobia on record



**Rose
Yewchuk**

Think you're living in the 1990s? Think again. This week's decision on the Delwin Vriend case revealed that some members of the Alberta government want to keep us in the dark ages.

A number of Conservative MLAs are up in arms about the Supreme Court decision to read sexual orientation into the Alberta's human rights legislation. The government has been actively fighting gay rights for the past decade, and the hard-core homophobes aren't about to give up now.

MLA Paul Langevin, who has tabled numerous petitions in the legislature opposing human rights protection for gays and lesbians, urged Klein to invoke the notwithstanding clause. "I'm certainly not in support of the decision," he said. "People know where I stand on the

gay rights issue. I believe it's a moral issue and I'm not prepared to support gay rights this time."

In Peter Trynchy's constituency, the 200 party members at his riding association's annual meeting unanimously voted in favour of the controversial clause. And Environment minister Ty Lund brought up the familiar argument that unelected judges should not be overruling the legislature. "My constituency is very, very upset that unelected judges are telling elected politicians what to do," he said.

The sad thing about this week's uproar is that officially sanctioned homophobia is nothing new in Alberta. When the province adopted its very first Human Rights Act in 1966, then premier Ernest Manning took great care to avoid sanctioning activities "which defied traditional moral strictures" — including sexual preference. Peter Lougheed took a similar approach when the Human Rights Commission was introduced in 1973.

When the Alberta Human Rights Commission recommended that sexual orientation be added to the legislation in 1992, then Agriculture minister Ernie Isley said that it wasn't necessary since homosexuals face no discrimination until they start "flaunting themselves" — after which point, they're presumably no longer entitled to protection since they brought the discrimination upon themselves by coming out of the closet.

When the Commission started accepting discrimination complaints from gays and lesbians later that year, then Community Development Minister Dianne Mirosh vetoed the decision to give "special rights" to practitioners of the "gay lifestyle." This was immediately followed by threats to abolish the Human Rights Commission.

When Alberta's human rights legislation was amended in 1996, the government deliberately left sexual orientation off the list. Victor Doerksen, the Progressive Conservative MLA for Red Deer-South, said that discrimination should result from an "unchangeable status." He dismissed scientific studies showing that homosexuality is genetically predetermined as "merely conjecture and not good science."

However, he felt that religious beliefs, although a choice, were sufficiently immutable as to merit protection under human rights legislation: "Religion ... is not merely whimsical preference. It is a set of deeply rooted, unchanging convictions" Hypocrisy, anyone?

Agriculture minister Ernie Isley said that it wasn't necessary since homosexuals face no discrimination until they start "flaunting themselves"

Finally, Doerksen said that characteristics protected under human rights legislation "should have no element of moral fault." "Human rights laws were never intended to give social blessing to immorality," he said. Stockwell Day, who was then Minister of Labour and Government House Leader, said in the Legislature that the "fundamental characteristic" that determines what should be included in human rights legislation was the recognition of a "creator."

And, in 1997, Social Services minister Lyle Oberg prevented a foster mother with 18 years of experience from caring for any more children because she left a heterosexual relationship for a lesbian relationship. "I'm quite clear at the moment as to the position of this government, which is that the most stable environment is a two-person heterosexual family for raising foster children," he said in explanation.

It's truly frightening that some of the comments made by our elected members sound like they were made in the 1890s, not the 1990s. By comparison, Quebec has legally protected sexual orientation since 1977, and no other province has fought as long or as hard as Alberta has to keep homosexuals from getting basic human rights. Let's hope our government listens to the voice of reason and decides not to invoke the notwithstanding clause. Our fundamental freedoms should never be subject to the whims of our elected officials.

The Burlap Sack

This week's Burlap Sack award goes to the Alberta public. Ralph Nader came to the University on Thursday, and spent about 2 hours quoting statistics. This passes as activism in today's society? If I read my math book out loud, am I a visionary?

The reason Albertans get this hearty beating, and not Nader, is because these statistics have been in the papers every fucking day since the Tories were elected.

Why do we need some stupid yank who wrote a few books to come in and tell us about our own collapsing health care system? It's like having your friend from work make a special trip to tell you that your dog is dying. It should be obvious.

So, there you go. Duh. Tune in next September for more Burlap Sack fun.

The Burlap Sack is a regular feature in which one person or group that needs to be put in a sack and beaten with many heavy sticks is ridiculed in print. It is satire. No sack beatings are administered.

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SMILING BIG AND WIDE

THE FUTURE LOOKS BRIGHT FOR WIDE MOUTH MASON

LIVE MUSIC PREVIEW

"Last Day of Classes Party"
with Wide Mouth Mason
and Hyperpsyche
at Dinwoodie Lounge
April 9

by Eugene Lee

It's a Monday morning, and the last thing you want to hear is the phone ringing. A very tired, but polite Safwan Javed, the drummer from Wide Mouth Mason picks up, greets me, and asks, "Isn't this interview in an hour?" Little did he know that daylight savings time happened over the weekend and the only place that it didn't happen in was Saskatchewan.

If you do not know who Wide Mouth Mason is, wow, do you have a lot to learn about the music industry and who's hot and who's not. WMM is one of the hottest bands in Canada right now. Their music comes from various influences ranging from Buddy Guy and a host of other blues acts to Bob Marley, the Police, and even Stevie Wonder. The band consists of Saf on drums, Earl Perriera on bass, and Shaun Verrault on guitar. All of them are quite versatile on their instruments.

The press and a host of other big wigs in the music industry have been so impressed with Wide Mouth Mason that they were invited to play at the prestigious Montreal Jazz festival. At the festival, Van Morrison was struck by Shaun's guitar prowess, and invited him on stage to jam with him. Unfortunately, he was out sight-seeing and did not get a chance to play with the Irish folk and blues man. Even B.B. King's management wanted the band to tour with him. Later this month Widemouth Mason will open for the Rolling Stones in Toronto and Montreal.

In the early days, Saf and Earl, who are, respectively, of Pakistani and Philippino descent, faced a lot of small town racist jargon from audiences. "I think that it is an unfortunate part of society [and] the world — not just small town Alberta," said Saf. Although Saf was threatened once or twice, he says that as "a member of a group that's



The trio Widemouth Mason will play at the Last Day of Classes Party at Dinwoodie Lounge on Thursday. From left: Earl Perriera, Shaun Verrault, and Safwan Javed.

at the brunt of that anger and ignorance, you should learn to deal with it — not necessarily ignore it."

He found that "the obvious overt form of racism is in the rural areas of Alberta, while a lot of the racism is still very subtly present in the cities."

The humility in this band is very much present in their music. The songs are not showy, but reflect aspects of everyday life in their lyrics. The band sings about everything from abusive re-

lationships to the preciousness of life (as explored in a song dedicated to Peter Jang, an Edmonton teen who passed away from leukemia).

When asked about the popularity of the band and their songs, Saf said he hopes that the band's songs are "popular due to the fact that they are good — not just because Shaun is cute or because Earl can dance."

Saf continued, "I would never want our careers based on the Backstreet Boys

or New Kids on the Block. That's not to say that they are bad or stupid people. [It's] just ... not what I would choose for my career — the one-hit wonder or one-era wonder category."

So, if you still aren't sure about these guys, pick up their self-titled CD and listen for yourself. And if you still aren't convinced of their *tour de force* of roots rock, then check them out for yourself at the Dinwoodie Lounge this Thursday during the "Last Day of Classes Party."

"AN OBSESSION WITH CONTEMPT FOR LIFE"

Rollins anthology full of angst and disillusionment

BOOK REVIEW

The Portable Henry Rollins
by Henry Rollins
Villard Books
\$27.95

by Dave Alexander

The Portable Henry Rollins is a compilation of stories, free verse, diary entries, musings from a dozen of Rollins' previously published works, and some new material. The book spans the last fifteen years, from his early days as frontman for legendary punk band Black Flag to their break-up and his formation of the Rollins Band, the unsolved murder of his best friend Joe Cole, his spoken-word tours, and his current status as a publisher and the head of his own record label.

Having read almost all of Rollins' previous books, I found *The Portable Henry Rollins* to be an excellent cross-section of his work. The running theme of the entire book can be summed up by a single line from his previous book *See a Grown Man Cry*: "An obsession with contempt for life."

This is not light reading. Rollins is the posterboy for dysfunction. He's a man so disillusioned with the shitty state of the world that he refers to himself as an "alien." In one of the journal entries after a Black Flag show, Rollins describes his relationship to the audience by saying: "They're just gouging and defiling my flesh. When I push out and mangle the flesh of another, it's falling so short of what I really want to do to them."

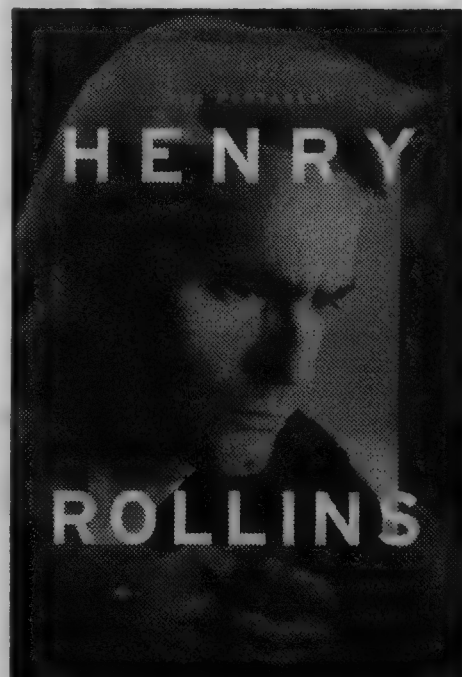
Rollins' writing is so intensely angry yet personal that the reader simultane-

ously experiences alienation and intimacy — as if you were reading the thoughts of someone who hated you.

Not all is pain, however. The three stories taken from his 1992 spoken word show are hilarious. He talks about the television news coverage of the LA riots, referring to them as "The Shit is Burning Show" (If you can find it, the video version of the show is even funnier).

There's even a diary entry from the show Black Flag played in Edmonton in 1986. After he froze his hands and the audience trashed his tour van, his words about our city are less than kind.

Rollins uses his writing as therapy. His writing explores his pain and refines it into diamonds of personal strength. At the very least, this book will engage your attention. At most, it could change the way you look at the world.



U OF A'S MELLIFLUOUS MUSIC MAKERS SHINE

LIVE MUSIC PREVIEW

The Music Makers
conducted by Malcolm Forsyth
featuring the U of A Symphony
Orchestra, Madrigal Singers,
and the Concert Choir

by Chris Miller

No question about it. There is enough talent in the U of A music department to leave one wide-eyed in amazement, as the University's Symphony Orchestra, Madrigal Singers and Concert Choir proved Sunday night at the Winspear Centre.

But there are also a few things left for these students to learn.

Opening with the Prelude to Richard Wagner's opera *Lohengrin*, the orchestra, under conductor Malcolm Forsyth's direction, immediately captured the audience's attention. Starting with a high, gentle cascade of melody, the violins were joined by the flutes, then the brass instruments and the lower strings. Each section helped build the texture of the piece, making it richer and more engrossing. It climaxed with a pounding of percussion before subsiding into a fragile melody, again on the violins.

A flourish from the brass carried the orchestra into the Introduction to Act III from the same opera. Spirited and lively, this piece seemed to give the string players a respectable workout for their bow hands. A slower section in the middle balanced it nicely with a reprise of the brass flourish to end the piece.

From there, however, the performance slowed — and stayed there.

The second piece of the evening, *Concerto for Piano and Orchestra in C Minor, Opus 18* by Sergei Rachmaninoff, showcased

Terry Greeniaus' undeniable skill on piano. This was everything one would expect from a Russian composer of any age in that country's often chaotic history. Dark, sometimes gentle, sometimes turbulent — but always moving, rich with harmonies. Unfortunately, the over-all performance was also, at times, dry and unengaging. The piece seemed to have a certain lethargic quality to it.

Mezzo-soprano soloist Maura Sharkey was centre stage for the last piece of the evening, *The Music Makers, Opus 69* by Edward Elgar. Elgar's music was, to me at least, an unexpected contrast to the text, taken from an ode by Arthur O'Shaughnessy. While the lyrics follow a fairly regular rhythm and often relate images of movement, such as "wandering by lone sea-breakers" or "[trampling] a kingdom down," the music seemed to float. Although slow and graceful, it seemed to lack any momentum to carry it forward. But no matter, the singers carried it off wonderfully. Full and satisfying, the choirs sounded like one voice, always blending together beautifully, and with no stuttered "t" or "d" consonants jaggedly ending words.

Sharkey was simply amazing. Starting softly, her voice filled the Winspear Centre. Even those of us in the upper balconies didn't feel like we were missing a note.

Unfortunately, when the orchestra crescendoed, her voice was lost. A little better balance should have been sought.

But in the gentle sections of the piece, Sharkey had the crowd's undivided attention. Even when the last quiet strains of music disappeared, the audience sat entranced for a few seconds, leaving the theatre perfectly quiet before breaking into loud and prolonged applause.

Despite the slowness of the last two pieces, it was a night U of A music students should be proud of.

GLOBE TROTTERING THE OLD FASHIONED WAY

EXHIBITS

"An Exquisite and Rational Enjoyment":
From Early Travel Books to
Baedeker Guides
Bruce Peel Special Collections
Library
until May 11

by Emily Wong

Where would you look for the best bars and the naughtiest women if you were a young gentleman visiting London in the 1820s? A book published in 1820 called *A Mentor for Greenhorns: The Spree of London* has plenty of suggestions. This guidebook for pursuing fast-lane nightlife in nineteenth century London is one of many travel books on display at the Bruce Peel Special Collections Library in an exhibit called "An Exquisite and Rational Enjoyment."

Located in the bowels of Rutherford South on the U of A campus, the Special Collections Library is home to the oldest and rarest books owned by the university. The travel books and Baedeker guides currently on display at Special Collections are no exception.

Among the most famous names whose writing appears in the exhibit is the Romantic era poet William Wordsworth and Mary Wollstonecraft, who wrote *A Vindication of the Rights of Women* in 1792. In his day, Karl Baedeker was also a well-known name. Baedeker was a German publisher who started publishing a meticulous collection of travel guides in the 1830s.

John Charles, a librarian at Special Collections, explained that the Baedeker guides were, and still are, widely respected for their accuracy and detail — especially in their maps. "His maps were extraordinary. He made maps on places where there weren't many maps," said Charles.

When you first walk into the Special Collections Library, you probably won't find the exhibit to be visually stunning. What you will see is a rather two-dimensional display of books behind a glass case. Many of the books are the same size and color because the books in the Baedeker series are all quite small and have the same raspberry colored covers with gold writing. Although there are brief notes listed beneath each book, and many of the books have passages highlighted in red within them, the exhibit is not very interesting to see unless you take the time to read the accompanying brochure.

The exhibit's brochure features a carefully annotated explanation about each book. In many ways, Charles' notes in the brochure are much more interesting than the exhibit itself.

Charles' brief biographies of the writers



Steven Hamblin

Special Collections librarian John Charles poses in front of the travel books

"They keep saying things like 'Jews used to live here, but they're gone now' — namely, to the death camps. Or they'd say 'The town is now Jew-free,'"

— John Charles on a 1943 Baedeker guide with Nazi propaganda

in the display are quite fascinating. The perceptions of these writers as they travel to unfamiliar lands — be it the Middle East or the town of Bath — reveal not only observations about other places, but the values and biases of the travelers themselves. "All these books point out the 'funny' customs the other people have," explained Charles. He added that literature students interested in postcolonial studies would probably find this to be particularly interesting.

The book with the most obvious and disturbing biases is a Baedeker guide published about German-occupied Poland in 1943. The book is a fascinating document of Nazi propaganda. The book tried to point out the vestiges of old German culture present in Poland in order to justify Germany's annexation of it. Charles pointed out that the book also reflects the anti-Semitism of the Holocaust. "They keep saying things like 'Jews used to live here, but they're gone now' — namely, to the death camps. Or they'd say 'The town is now Jew-free,'" said Charles.

The Special Collections Library's exhibit on travel guides runs until the end of May. Literature and history buffs will find this collection to be well worth checking out.

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TESLA ELECTRIC FULL OF SCIENCE AND MAGIC

THEATRE REVIEW

Tesla Electric
by David Fraser
directed by Heather Inglis
starring Aaron Franks, Hansi Klemm, Michael Charrois, Andrew Thomson, Don Schmidt, Amanda Bouchard, and Spike at the Arts Barns Open Space until April 11

by Christie Tucker

He invented AC power, radio, and had a dream to provide every household in the world with free electricity, but how many of us know the name Nikola Tesla? Tesla was a Croatian inventor working under Thomas Edison who died penniless without credit or rewards for his inventions.

The Canadian National Theatre Co-operative's production of David Fraser's play *Tesla Electric* examines the trials and tribulations of the unlucky genius.

Performed on a set that is more Barnum and Bailey than Doctor Frankenstein, a carnival atmosphere carries through the whole show. Live accordion and piano music, a few splashy electrical effects, and some sur-

real sequences with Mark Twain (Michael Charrois) on roller skates, lend the production a fun, vaudevillian quality that is rare in modern theatre.

Aaron Franks plays Tesla with intensity and depth, hinting at his compulsive tendencies and passion for science, as well as the bizarre nature of his genius. Tesla's serious European reserve contrasts with the gregarious Edison — played with vigour by Andrew Thomson — and the other outspoken Americans in the cast.

There are some excellent performances by Thomson, Charrois, and Don Schmidt, who plays financier George Westinghouse. At first, Hansi Klemm plays Abby as a tomboy lab assistant with Polka-Dot Doorsque perkiness and mugging, which seemed too big for the intimate surroundings of the Arts Barns. Fortunately, the second incarnation of Abby is likeable and more in synch with the smooth performances of the rest of the cast.

Director Heather Inglis manages to keep a festive mood throughout live electrocution and dog roasting, which is quite a feat considering the popularity of "Spike" as the dog in question. Infotainment in intermission was provided by the TV show *Mad Science*, which featured demonstrations in flaming metallic powders.

Equally peppered with humour and mystery, the script of *Tesla Electric* is a fascinating look at an idealistic man with a vision — a man who donated his ideas to posterity and was left with nothing.

Science, magic, flashes and bells make what is dangerously close to being an educational experience into a humorous, entertaining production.

Be on your guard while enjoying *Tesla Electric* — you just might learn something.

Equally peppered with humour and mystery, the script of *Tesla Electric* is a fascinating look at an idealistic man with a vision — a man who donated his ideas to posterity and was left with nothing.



Tim Folkmann, courtesy of the Canadian National Theatre Co-operative
Aaron Franks plays Nikola Tesla in David Fraser's *Tesla Electric*.



Steven Hamblin

BFA and MFA Theatre Design Students exhibited their work last week in the Theatre Design Portfolio Show. The exhibit featured set models, costume sketches and collages.

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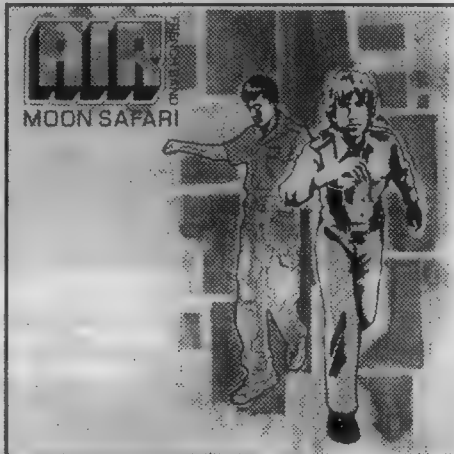
This is one of the stranger CDs I've run across in my lifetime. Air is like nothing else I've ever heard. They're not electronica, but their music is electronic. The Moog is one of their favourite instruments, it seems, as well as a vocoder, which takes their voices and makes them sound computery. Both give the disc a tacky feel at first, but it eventually wins you over with its odd likeability.

Amidst a mass of electronic bleeps and bleeps is a core of complex and beautiful instrumentation. Both members of the band are very musically talented, and the result is a sound that is genuinely addictive. The guitar riffs, acoustic and electric, are all played by Nicolas and Jean-Benoit, who are classically trained musicians.

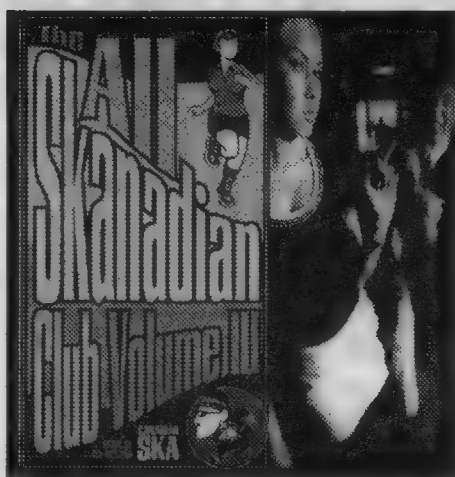
Although the aforementioned vocoder is annoying at times, making the words sound like the computer generated voices of the '80s, you find yourself getting used to it, and enjoying the other instrumentation.

There's a true creativity and originality in this band that I feel we sometimes lose in a music industry dominated by Mariah Carey, Puff Daddy, and all their easily generated replicas.

Iain Ilich



Third Wave Ska



Various Artists
The All Skanadian Club Volume III
Stomp

Great third-wave ska can be found in Canada and Stomp, a St-Lambert, PQ label, does its best to make sure the stuff gets out. *The All Skanadian Club Volume III* showcases bands with varied approaches to their ska.

The Jamaica-flavoured "Rude Boy on the Bus" by Adrian Miller has a good bassline while Venice Shoreline Chris (Chris Murray of King Apparatus/One fame) serves up a beach-based "Brave New Brian" with light organs. JFK & The Conspirators and The Smokers both do jazzy numbers: the former using organs and smooth English beats on "You Were Leavin'," and the latter adding stand-up bass to "Hatchet Man." The Salads do the punkiest ska of all on "Johnny Stubbs" and The Planet Smashers do one of the bounciest ones with "Change."

Although a majority of the songs are previously unreleased, they give a good indication of what Canadian ska bands are up to now. A few weak songs drag the compilation down a bit, but, all in all, this is a cool release.

Karen Liebel

The J. Jonah Jamesons
Stirrups, Anvils, and Hammers
Raging Postman

I think this album is supposed to have a sense of humour, but I'm not getting the joke. If you think there's nothing funnier than truckstop waitresses, dancing trees, Mexican dogs, and pigs that eat bacon, then pick this album up. If not, avoid this album at all costs.

The album's title refers to parts of the inner ear, but to me, the items in the title were things I wanted to beat myself with so I didn't have to listen to this CD anymore. The juvenile lyrics, combined with singing and music that sound worse than Jim Carrey's "World's Most Annoying Sound" in *Dumb and Dumber*, add up to one thing: mental cruelty.

Graham Johnson

Rusty
Out Of Their Heads
Handsome Boy Records

Rusty, a veteran Canadian band long known for its straightforward alt-punk rhythms, goes out on a limb on this new album, refocusing their musical aspirations towards a daring new genre of music: the freewheelin' 1960s. *Out Of Their Heads* is a groovy musical journey into the heart of classic '60s rock n' roll with a very '90s spin. Every song is a new and exciting offering of vintage fuzzy '60s guitar riffs, metaphorical lyrics, and raunchy sexuality. Rusty has seemingly put away their three chord punk songs in exchange for some quirky, tumbling tunes that echo the early Rolling Stones, and the results are outstanding. Covers of *The Kinks'* "Till the End of the Day" and *The Velvet Underground's* "Sunday Morning" lend this album some '60s authenticity. The original tracks are equally intriguing. Scott McCullough's guitar vibrates with a distinctly '60s swagger. Throw this disc in your stereo. Add some tightly cut bell bottoms, a little acid, and some horny young groupies. With a little lip-synching, *voila* — you're a sixties rock star!

Craig Corbett

Sneaker Pimps
BECOMING
Virgin

Remixing is always more successful when a producer has good originals to work with. How good those originals are, however, is a matter of listener taste. Some people love the Sneaker Pimps, and others hate them. If you love them, then these recut renditions of Pimp staples will blow your mind. Featuring tinkering by Armand van Helden, Reprazent, and Jim Abbiss, this is a very high profile remix disc, and a fine example of the art remixing has become.

Some of the tracks are very Pimp-esque in their sound, while others are loyal to the originals. Still, everything on this disc is recognizably Pimp at the core, thanks to the latent big beats and synthesizer stylings and the breathy vocals of Kelli Dayton.

All of the music which is reworked here is from the Sneaker Pimp debut album *Becoming X*, including two very different remixes of "6 Underground" (originally made famous by its inclusion on the soundtrack to the movie *The Saint*.) Also of note are two similar yet captivatingly different takes on "Spin Spin Sugar," both undertaken by Van Helden.

The really fun part about this disc is the seamless merging of styles between the original artists and the remix producers, and how different each successful product is from the original.

In short, this is a really satisfying and eclectic mix. The disc is a limited edition release. It's worth picking up either if you're a Sneaker Pimps fan, or if you're just interested in the remix phenomenon.

Don Iveson

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Daryl Pereira
David Li
David Porter
David Alkalay
David Waldbillig
Dawn Jarbeau
Daylyn White
Denny Niederle
Dylan Scammell
Elizabeth Nofziger
Erin Ducholke
Gabby Deagle
Genevieve Carolan
Greg MacNeil
Heather deBruyn
Heather Malcolm
Heather Cuts
Heather Smith
Hendrik deHeek
Hiroshi Ishii
Hisham Jaber
James Brown
Jana Chrisp
Jane Blackall
Janice Bolen
Jared Orynik
Jarrod Goldsmith
Jason Fahy
Jason Miller
Jay Thong
Jeff Lerouge
Jennifer Scott
Jennifer Jabs
Jennifer Marfleet
Jenny Giacetti
Jeremy Forest
Jesse Runge
Jessica Klasson
Jing Hu
Jo-Jo Gulayets
Jody Vogelzang
Jody Sherman
Joe Spear
John Carr
Jon LeVos
Jonathan Boman
Jorge Bernadez
Julie Stoneberg
Julie Seymour

Julio Howe
Jullotto Callilau
Kalay Brady
Kallum Morland
Kamala Hutchison
Karen Goudie
Karen Koperski
Kelly Lisowec
Ken Nakagawa
Ken Blonski
Ken Swanston
Kevin Ang
Kevin Vachon
Kris Kendall
Krista Leddy
Krista Cox
Krista Zirk
Krista Semenchuk
Kylie Tucker
Lara Keuhn
Leanne Humbke
Leo Wong
Leslie Hamilton
Levi Sharko
Lisa Yaderuk
Luke Pickard
Marc Willacy
Marcie Brulotte
Margaret Kalacska
Marie Foreman
Marty Tucker
Matthew Nixon
Melanie Sohn
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Michael Hill
Micheline Goudreau
Michelle Gaboury
Michelle Zaploscki
Mike Breault
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Peter Johnstone
Polly Ip
Quinn Pertman
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Richard Houle
Robert Sadowski

Robert Leddy
Rose Jendruck
Roszan Holmen
Roy Thomas
Ryan Chapman
Ryan Quigg
Sandra Pysklywyc
Sanjida Rangwala
Sarah Graham
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Scott Mark
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Sheila Soder
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Sheri Reid
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Stacey Kutt
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Stephanie McRae
Stephen Mill
Susan Drever
Susan Amundsen
Suzanne Cuts
Tammy Walton
Tanya Strembiski
Tariq Mahmood
Teena Pasay
Terry Hawkins
Tiffany Brulotte
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Tom Lam
Tom Inglis
Tony Chung
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SPORTS

Sports Editor: Brandice Shostak 492-5068

FIRST SEASON EVALUATION

PANDAS ICE HOCKEY TEAM LOOKS BACK ON THEIR FIRST SEASON

by Barrie Tanner

On September 13, 1997, 51 athletes came to hockey training camp here at the U of A. Competition was stiff, as fewer than 21 of the vying athletes would be chosen to represent the University in hockey. But this wasn't just any old squad, folks. It was the beginning of the University of Alberta Pandas ice hockey team.

Coached by former Golden Bear captain Howie Draper, the team would compete in the Northern Alberta Women's Hockey League (NAWHL), home of the national AAA Women's hockey champions, the Edmonton Chimos. Alberta is part of the Canada West Universities Athletic Association women's hockey conference, which includes Alberta, BC, Calgary, Lethbridge, Manitoba and Saskatchewan.

The Pandas came out kicking in their first season of play, recording a 30-14-6 overall record and a 19-7-4 placing in the NAWHL—not too shabby for a first-year hockey team.

Without a doubt, the quality of coaching had an effect on these

"I was just trying to learn the different aspects of the culture of women's sports."

—U of A Pandas ice hockey coach Howie Draper

numbers as well. Draper, besides being a former Golden Bear defenseman, also has coaching experience in the New South Wales Super League, the hockey elite of Australia. As technical assistant, the Pandas have the legendary Clare Drake. His successes include coaching the U of A men's hockey team to six nationals and 17 conference championships.

One major problem for any team going into their inaugural season is chemistry, or, what lets the players perform together. We all know you can have all the skill you want on a team, but if they can't work together, you have nothing. Draper believes the Pan-



file photo

The Pandas ice hockey team is the newest of all U of A varsity teams.

das were able to minimize this problem.

The Pandas consist of two groups: there are the strong ringette players and the players who came from the Sherwood Park shooters. Draper believes these two nuclei of players were able to combine, react, and form a strong Pandas hockey team.

But it was no cakewalk for the head coach either, whose previous experience had yet to stretch to the realm of female athletics.

"It was challenging [to coach

the team]," admitted Draper.

"[I was] just trying to learn the different aspects of the culture of women's sports." As for expectations, Howie is happy about the way his team performed last season, stating they have surpassed expectations while developing quickly.

"Having had success, the expectations will be higher next year," explained the coach. "We know the players are serious, and this year set the standard for next season."

Two faces that are missed next season will be Karen Chouinard, "an awesome goalie" according to Draper, and winger Kimberly Murrell, also a talented player.

The team is expecting to have about 50 more players trying out for next season, this will push the quality of the new players up, while keeping the veterans on their toes. Those accepted will become part of a squad of players that, though they have only one season under their belts, have already started a winning tradition.

A very colourful affair

Colour Night honours the top varsity athletes at the U of A

by Brandice Shostak

It was a colourful affair when the 67th annual Colour Night was held to reward University of Alberta athletes on Saturday.

Outstanding Golden Bears and Pandas were honoured at the awards ceremony at the Myer Horowitz Theatre. Four major awards were handed out at the reception.

Up for Female Rookie of the Year were Jenny Zinkan-McGrade (field hockey), Krysty Lorenz (hockey), Lisa Ricioppo (soccer), Jenny Scott (swimming), Kim Ladoceur (track and field), and Heather Buckmaster (volleyball).

The award went to Jenny Zinkan-McGrade. Zinkan-McGrade is a first-year Physical Education/

Education student who played midfield for the Pandas field hockey team. Zinkan-McGrade was a CIAU tournament All-Star when the Pandas grabbed the silver medal.

Up for Male Rookie of the Year were Stephen Parker (basketball), Wade Nellis (football), Rocky Josan (soccer), Brian Edey (swimming), Murray Heber (track and field), and Peter Findlay (volleyball).

Wade Nellis came away the big winner here. Nellis, 18, is an offensive guard who is in his first year of general science. Nellis started in the final three games of the 1997 Bears season.

Nominees for the Bakewell Trophy, awarded to the Female Athlete of the Year, were as follows: Sabrina Wilson (swimming), Susan

Armstrong (field hockey), Cheri Lansdown (volleyball), Heather Murray (soccer), Jennifer Koelbl (track and field), Sarah Joly (soccer).

Cheri Lansdown, a fifth-year volleyball player, took home the honours. Lansdown, 23, was the CIAU tournament MVP when the Pandas claimed their fourth consecutive national title in March. Lansdown, a team co-captain, finished fourth in Canada West and ninth in the CIAU in kills, averaging 3.44 kills/game played. She also finished third in the CWUAA and fifth in the CIAU in digs, with an average of 3.99 digs/game played. Lansdown was also a CWUAA first-team All-Star this year, her fourth selection to the team.

Nominees for the Wilson Challenge Trophy, awarded to the Most Valuable Male Athlete, were as follows: Murray Grapentine (volleyball), Mike Jickling (hockey), Collin Sood (swimming), Darren Semeniuk (basketball), Craig Alloway (football), and Kevin Olson (track and field).

Murray Grapentine, a third-year middle for the volleyball team, was the winner. Grapentine was a 1997-98 CIAU first-team All-Canadian, as well as a CWUAA first-team All-Star and a CIAU tournament All-Star. Grapentine was second in the CIAU in blocks this season and fifth in Canada West in kills (3.97 k/gp). Grapentine is also active on the Team Canada 'A' National team roster.

1998 Awards

Winners

Female Rookie of the Year

Jenny Zinkan-McGrade
Field Hockey

Male Rookie of the Year

Wade Nellis
Football

Male MVP

Murray Grapentine
Volleyball

Female MVP

Cheri Lansdown
Volleyball

Around Athletics...

"We need more cohesion, rather than Stalinistic purges where you operate under a level of fear. We all need to join hands and sing 'Kumbaya'."

Brian Williams, Denver Nuggets

p. 17 Final Words from Shandra Doran

p. 17 Provincial Karate tournament

p. 17 Thank you

Inside the Den

FINAL WORDS

by Shandra Doran

And what a road it's been.

I am a fifth year student athlete on this campus and now face the conclusion to what has been one hell of a ride. I have played for the Pandas Volleyball Team—you know, the ones who had never won a title in the history of the U of A and then went on to do it again and again and again while at the same time overcoming major adversity. This is an amazing team at one of the greatest institutions in Canada. I have tremendous pride and fondness when I look at the entire experience; and that is why I am writing this article.

I want to say thanks to a number of different people and groups that have given their all and made the past five years most memorable, to say the least. First, the Faculty of Science and specifically the department of Zoology exhibited great patience with me as I juggled school and sport and rewarded me with a degree. Then, the Faculty of Physical Education enabled me to play my fifth year with the illustrious title of "special student." Thank you for not allowing me to forget the student side of student athlete.

Second, I want to thank the department of athletics and all the athletes therein. The camaraderie of this tight knit group is unparalleled and the U of A way of "good times had by all" will not soon be forgotten. Thanks for all the fun

and support. Sometimes it seemed like you all cared a little too much!

Third, to my friends across this campus—thanks for being there for me. Whether it was just to hang, or to help me regain perspective, or going to class for me on those numerous occasions when I couldn't make it.

Most importantly, however, I want to say thanks to my team. In 1993, Laurie, you chose a really bad volleyball player for your team. But in five years you took an unskilled, out of shape kid who tried really hard and taught her to be a competitive athlete (among other things). I owe ya.

And to my teammates, current and past. What more is there to say but, we did it boys! Not once, not twice, not three times, but four. And of course I love you all. I wish you nothing but the best in every endeavor but, knowing the character of this group, I know we can't help but succeed. As fun as it was to beat up on the rest of the CIAU, it is not the titles, however, that I am going to remember. It is the journey to get there and the people I was fortunate enough to travel with that made the experience worthwhile. And as sentimental as this sounds, those of you who know me know that it comes straight from the heart. These five years attending and competing for the University of Alberta have been a blast and I just wanted to offer thanks to all who contributed.

PROVINCIAL KARATE ACTION TWELVE REPRESENT U OF A AT TOURNAMENT

by John Friegert

Twelve members of the U of A Gojukai Karate Club competed at the Provincial Karate Championship here in Edmonton last weekend. Sponsored by the Karate Alberta Association, this tournament marks the end of the competitive season for sanctioned amateur karate in Alberta. The Grand prix point standings are used to select the provincial team which will represent Alberta at the National Black Belt Championships.

Eleven medals were won in all: four gold, five silver, and two bronze. Michele Ding, a 1997 Pro-

vincial team member, won gold in kata (forms) and silver in kumite (sparring) in the Women's Black Belt Division. Nat Alampi won silver in kata and bronze in kumite in the Men's Green Belt Division. Ian Grey, Men's Green Belt Division won a bronze in kata. Satoko Nemoto, Women's Green Belt Division won gold in kata, while Kathy Strobl took the silver. Celia Ko won gold in kata in the Women's White and Yellow Belt division. First-time competitors Andrew Providence and Elliot Christian took gold and silver in white belt kata, and Andrew

earned a silver in sparring.

Michele Ding has been selected to the Provincial Team for the second time, and Spencer Ling has also earned a spot through top performances at previous tournaments. They now enter provincial team training to prepare for the Nationals, held in St. Hyacinth, Quebec on May 7, 8 and 9.

In addition to the competitors, three club instructors worked as referees and judges, as members of the Provincial Officials' Committee, and many club members volunteered as timekeepers, announcers, and ring assistants.

Thank you

Here at the Gateway sports section, we like to thank those who have gone above and beyond the call of duty.

First, the writers. Without you dedicated souls, I would not have retained what little sanity I have.

Laura Matheson:

You, my dear, rock. You saved my sorry butt many a time, and I truly appreciate that. You are also a fabulous writer, especially at 2 a.m.

Barrie Tanner:

Barrie, oh Barrie. The man of many thousands of words. Your dedication is extraordinary, and you are a very talented writer. Keep it up. And quit making up quotes!

Denise Fernandes:

I wish you luck. You have been great this year. You did your arti-

cles early, and without any guidance. Enjoy your sentence. Ha.

Jason Glabb:

You were pretty shy at first, but that changed quickly enough. You worked hard and improved a lot.

Rose Austen and Meghan

Shone:

It's not easy writing as a team, but you two pulled it off well. Enjoy next year as seasoned writers.

Secondly, I'd like to thank the athletes and coaches who put up with us all year. An extra big thank-you to those two or three people who returned our phone calls; you made our meager little lives a lot easier.

On behalf of the Gateway Sports

section, I would also like to thank Dan Carle of Athletics Informa-

tion for all the great faxes and phone calls. We really like stats. A lot. Thanks.

My fellow editors, I shall miss you a lot. Really. Even Nathan. Well, maybe not Nathan. But I will miss the jamming by the Stupid Yelling Retard Cowboys, and the monosyllabic grunts that pass for conversation at 4 a.m.

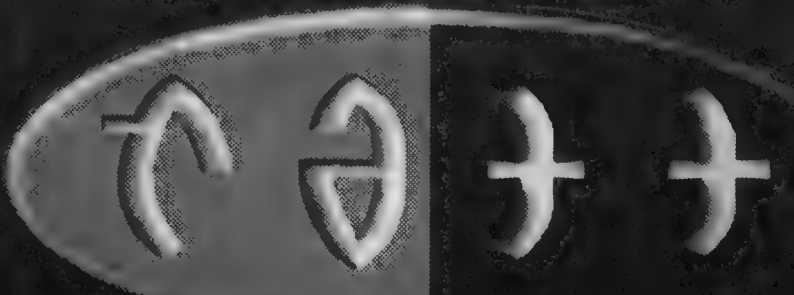
Anyway, it has been a long, long, long, loooong year and it's finally over. It's kind of crazy, but I'll actually miss this dungeon.

Good luck to next year's editors. Suckers. I hope to see all this year's writers return in September. And that is all. Goodbye, and good luck.

Brandice Shostak

1997-98 Gateway sports editor

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Denis O. Lamoureux holds three earned doctoral degrees — dentistry, theology and biology. He is cited in the 1996 Who's Who in Theology and Science.

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AND NOW FOR... THREE LINES FREE

Well, I hope you enjoy 'em kids. Why? Because it's the last time you'll see them for a long, long time. Like four months maybe.

brought to you by: The Shadow

2 da HOT Oriental guy, 2nd flr. Cam. - need a girl? - admirer from close by
To da loud, cocky, mudda fukker in Cameron 2nd floor with the dirt on his arm: Shut the fuck up!
Mark is the woman.
James @ v-ball banquet March 28: Heard about what happened after I left. You O.K.? : Butterfly chick
Happy Jap: hubba hubba, eee, eee, eee, eee, do I make you horny baby? Do I? Shelbino Rixy - have you ever kissed a girl? the deuce Beautiful Eyelash Boy. Last year you met. She says you're good friends. But WE ALL see the chemistry: the magic between U 2. A match made in heaven perhaps? Match-maker
To the dark-haired beauty always wearing plaid in my computer lab every Thurs. before 1pm: You make my world spin. Maybe I could e-mail you - Interested
Blond girl in Bioch 205 mwf @12, Edu bldg, who always sits right side, 2nd row. You looked sexy in that black dress/leather jacket on Fri. R U single? Your admiring slave (since day 1)
Hi! Any of you ever heard of THREE lines?!!? Fuckers. -the Shadow
Hey Rosaceae Spice, Lick my Kinnikinnik! Negundo spice
To the pretty blonde that lent me her Bio book at MedSci Friday. Can I buy you a Jolt? sweet pea
To the people who love watchin those Jerry Springer Transsexual hookers. Keep Rockin' and Rollin'. Adonis- Keep it real!
Her Majesty Mr. Prime Minister in PouSci 100 w/ Kading. Wise up! The Governor of the Bank of Canada
Mark is a bearded woman without the beard.
To all International Students! Thanks for a great year at the U of A 97/98. Have a safe trip home and remember to keep in touch. Katherine & Linda
Blonde girl in Hus, turquoise fleece, Karen? You are the best I have seen in a long time. You're welcome
Spanky, Is there enough room in that wash-room stall for me as well? GG#1
Glen K. you are the master of impotence. I hope your dick falls off and you become the pussy you really are.
My darlings, "Best" and "Ends": Best of luck on your exams. Can't wait to party all night long/. Remember: Books before boys! Love, "Fri"
Guy in Blackhawks sweater- When do I get to feel your pouch? Luv MOM

Hey Ratty: Congrats on the bitch, and as you always say, "Go straight for the pink!" Too bad she's got small titties. Luv Jared Adrian (5K), I want to shag you rotten like an animal. Secret Admirer
Pundine: Death is near. Hugs + Kisses. Love Paidrew
TL mwf 10-11 Bio 108- Carrie, please keep your voice down. From Coffee Boy
Doug a.k.a. Cavalier Boy - was that bondage or bondage? -Curious P.T. girls
To the Eas 102 girl who answered some questions for us on Thurs. at 1:30... you're cute! Are you single? -The Great Saiyaman Hay! Loud, annoying guy at Yuk Yuks, March 27. Lets get together soon and have 101 N of GS with some Honey
Hey Boys- Get FACK'D - End of Sem. Let's Drink - Power Plant Wed. nite. D.B.
Joel, we love your Braveheart pants. Foto Girls
To the sexy milkmaid in Spanish: Stop trying to milk balls! A friend
Daniel, thanx for the love and support. Love you much. Kerri
Glen K. your little girly voice, chubby face, skimpy body and bad hair-cut annoy us all. Get lost
I'm graduating! I was here for a good time! Thanks everyone! J.
Kwanie- I'm really going to miss that study room, but we'll always have J.D. Bracco. Love you- Cheeks()
This is Glen K. You got something to say? Say it to my face! I'll jackass you if you don't shut up!
blah, blah, blah, blah... -the Shadow
For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our lord. Romans 6:23
blah, blah, blah, blah... -the Shadow
To that loud blonde chick in Cas. If you were a horse we'd put you down. SHUT UP BISLAM, formed + frozen?!? See you on AIR LINGUS- STIPEY THE PIGGY
Whoever did it- thanks for turning in the orange wallet forgotten in Sub. THANK YOU!!!
To Destiny- will we be destined to meet? curious
To Dale's girlfriend Jen H: Your boyfriend is a liar and a 2-timing cheat. Beware!
To the sweetest girl a guy could ever know. You are so precious to me. Happy 2 year anniversary Rissaa- Love your Cutestuff
ODIE- Happy belated 21st! There were games, wine and b.j.'s that can't compare, the only thing missing was sexy black underwear. C

To the virgin waffle woman: Your laugh has brightened our year. Have fun down south DJ Moose would like to thank you all for those wonderful Friday nights. Don't forget to visit Inga's over the summer. XOXO Shadow- come and play friday, 'kay?
To Gord, you rock my world, from Gord
Hey Jillian H- Why are you a total bitch? Now look at yourself you loser. Nice ass though
To curly hair girl, from guy with red/black ski jacket. Name time & place after 4pm classes on Thurs Apr:9
To Chris at Grill Works: You make the best grill cheese sandwiches in the world. You'll be missed next year. A
Long live the head Nipple! NATION ARIOLA FOREVER, BABEE!
Mac Cam Crew, Our first year of university is finally over... Next Stop: Banff, babe!! (Well, at least Rundle)
She-ra, prepare to feel my wrath! Feel the power of Greyskull, puny human! He-man Caesar- let's go fishing. Brutus

Christine- There is more to life than steak and potatoes. Let us show you the way. The PowerPlant
Amy, are sloppy Joes and Oh Henrys really THAT great? So... no more L-I-N-K @ 1 - your beloved B
To Hot Blond Bar fly at Plant Tues & Thurs. Do you have a home? Brollio
To spiny blonde girl in Cab on monday, please shut up. Rob
Attn: Team Six. Lethbridge Rocked! It's time to open up a can of whup-ass! P.B.
Did anyone this year happen to find a pin of a cow with holes in it? Please take it to the Lister Hall front desk. Sentimental value
Cody: hey, sexy. You and me, red & blue couches next tues. Let's do it - Danielle
D. Smith (ChE) That's the last time I invite you over to my house. My dog's still walking funny
The blonde on the #17 Bus, Thurs Apr:2 approx 3pm- You are fine!!
To my April Fools Baby. Happy 19th Jenny! Luv SMJT

Spanky: If you're gonna spend that much time in the washroom, you might as well bring some Bio to read (y'know, 2 birds, 1 stone) GG#2
Dove, anxiously anticipating everything. Look in your glove compartment. I'm touching my nose twice. Jill
Hey Melissa! Congrats you vp Internal. G
Happy 19th Birthday Carrie. Now that you are older and more mature, stop laughing like a six year old.
Spiderwoman: Hit those books! Study hard and THEN play hard. Love, your splendid sister
Happy birthday Carrie, hope you had fun, wished I could have been there. Coffee Boy JS: Offensichtlich können wir Dich nie im Power Plant treffen. Vielleicht werden wir Dich am 9 April nach Deined "film-studies" klasse in den Biergärten sehen.
...the dark soul has come closer to the completion of his long Journey, though he has yet to find his true Purpose. Yet what does the Future hold? Beware... -the Shadow

Come to the International Centre (172 HUB) on Tues., April 7 at 7:00pm for "The Traveling Woman: Tips for Women Traveling Alone". Join three women who have experiences traveling alone in Europe, the Middle East, South America and Asia. This session will provide an opportunity to discuss some of the unique problems a woman may encounter while traveling on her own. For more info, contact Doug Weir at 492-2692.

The Eco-Research Chair in Environmental Risk Management presents Assoc. Prof. Don Forsyth, director of the Australian Cooperative Research Center on Water Quality and Treatment, speaking on "Water Down Under: Is it Safe to Drink?" on Fri, April 17 in Rm. 2f1.04 (classroom D) in the Walter C. Mackenzie Health Sciences Center, University of Alberta Hospital

The Business Students' Association presents the 10th Annual Last Day of Classes Beer Gardens in Main Quad on Thurs., April 9 from 11:00am-6:00pm. Food-Drinks-Clubs-Prizes-Giveaways-Moby Disc and Video Production. For more info, contact the Business Students' Association.

The Dept. of Renewable Resources presents Dr. Uldis Silins, who will be speaking on "Temperature Dependence of Whole-Tree Bending Characteristics and Sapwood Damage During Static Bending of Lodgepole Pine" on Thurs., April 9 at 12:30pm in 2-36 Earth Sciences Building.

The Dept. of Chemical and Materials Engineering presents David Sharp, who will be speaking on "Multiphase Flow Visualization: A Bubble Column Study" on Thurs., April 9 at 3:30pm in Rm. 342, Chemical-Mineral Engineering Bldg.

Want to play politician for a week-end? Debate Bills and hold the government accountable. Everyone is welcome when the U of A Political Clubs presents the "U of A Model Parliament" on April 24-26. \$15 for members of campus political clubs, \$20 if not. For more info, call Kevin Monk at 425-7547, or email: monk@pgpu.

The Dept. of Chemical and Materials Engineering presents Kafui Nyavor, who will be speaking on "Mechanistic and Kinetic Studies of Pyrite Oxidation and Acid Mine Drainage Formation" on Thurs., April 9 at 2:00pm in Rm. 342, Chemical-Mineral Engineering Bldg.

Just as a reminder, this is the last Happy Bob Knows edition until September. Hope you have a great summer!

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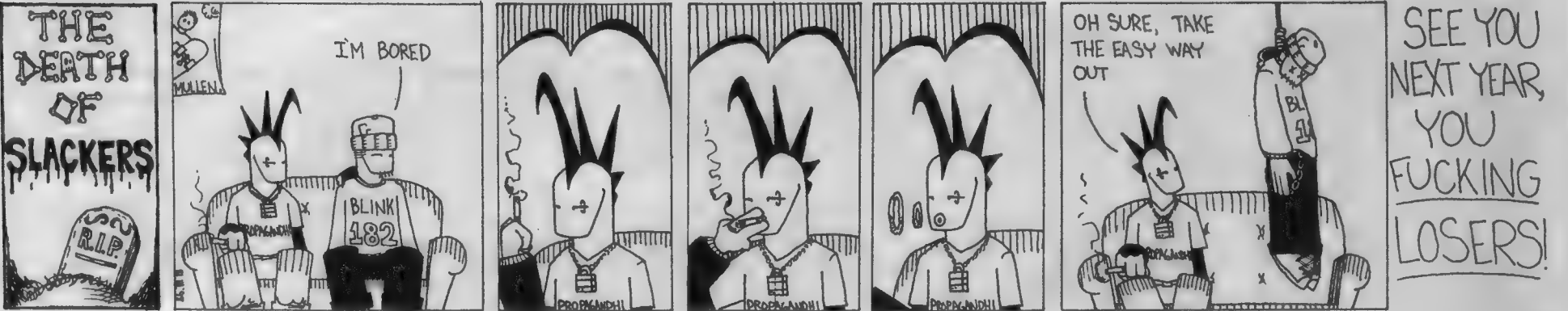


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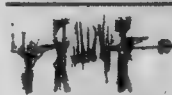
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The Students' Union would like to congratulate

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JESUS HATED QUEERS

Some hick misreads a Bible and we report it as news: P. 37



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VOL 20, NO. 351

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THURSDAY APRIL 23

LAST DAY OF EXAMS BASH

FIRST BLIGHT!

Something lame to start your funny day

compiled by a pair of pants and a can of soup we found

SAD DOG KILLED BY BEES: "I am really sad about my dead dog," said Madeline Giroux, 87. Her dog was violently butchered by knife-wielding bees, who were wielding knives.

"There really isn't much we could have done for the poor thing," said paramedic Buggy Doo. "Frankly, I didn't care enough to bother."

It's a good thing that there are clowns to make people happy when things like this happen.

SHOES FOUND HAVING SEX IN PRIVATE DWELLING: Three funny shoes were charged with indecent acts within a private dwelling Tuesday when police raided their apartment.

"We can't let them proliferate, or reproduce, here in our fine city," said police officer Clarence Askikka on Wednesday. After

attending his remedial grade 4 sexual education course, he added, "Oh. Never mind."

Charges were later dropped. Isn't that FUNNY?

SOUP IN SAFEWAY STORE:

David Connors, who has worked in the Kanervon Safeway since 1956, found a can of soup.

"It's really good!" said Connor, who likes soup. Funny?

Charges were later dropped.

LIBERAL MLA SNUBS TOE: PC

cabinet member Bill Toe was snubbed by Liberal MLA Pierre Dumont Wednesday after planning to meet to discuss the issues pertaining to their upcoming marriage. Toe is furious.

"I thought we were getting married, but I guess not," said Toe, at his midsoutheastern Edmonton ranch.

Dumont, who is Liberal, and therefore enjoys lying, tried vainly to defend himself.

"I was in a car crash! I had no way of getting to him, and the cell phone was broken," said Dumont. Nobody believed the leftist fuck. Charges are pending.

FUNNY THING HAPPENS: A guy was walking down the street when a funny thing happened.

"I was just walking down the street, when this really, really funny thing happened! A can of paint was on a ladder, and then, it tipped onto my head, and blinded me," he said, wiping the blood from his now-empty eye sockets. He then beat himself senseless with a frozen tuna. Tuna. MMMmmm...

COW-HUMPING SCANDAL:

Calgary Janitor Fred Albreicht was caught with his pants up again. Albreicht, after failing to copulate with yet another barnyard animal, has been charged under Calgary's non-copulation act for failing to yield to the sexual advances of a male bovine.

"What kind of a world is this where I have to hump with a ... hey! Wait a minute here! That was a boy cow? What the hell is wrong with me?"

Charges were dropped once Albreicht agreed to give the boy cow (known as a bull) a second chance.

CANADIANS TORCH WHITE HOUSE - AGAIN:

Poor Lt. Anthony O'Mally, the guy just can't catch a break. You may remember him as one of the CFB Cold Lake pilots reprimanded for taking his jet fighter out to meet his girlfriend in the States. Well, it seems O'Mally is up to his old tricks, but this time making out in the cockpit with the same girlfriend had more fireworks than the pair had hoped for. While smooching over the eastern US seaboard, the pair accidentally engaged the weapons system on O'Mally's CF-100, launching a salvo of Rotorooter Rockets. The missiles slammed into the White House a few minutes later, killing the entire US government, who were gathered with Bill Clintstone for a presidential dinner. Also killed were several Congressional wives and girlfriends, who were, for unknown reasons, in the presidential bedroom. Clintstone's last words were reported to be, "I didn't inhale." In retaliation, the US nuked Canada off the map and increased trade restrictions on Iraq. Cool.



SAY NO TO QWACK

This duck, who is really funny, should not be smoking. A duck smoking? Funny. The duck was on display in the Smithsonian Institute's *Ducks who like to Smoke Cigarettes* display, we think. Who cares.



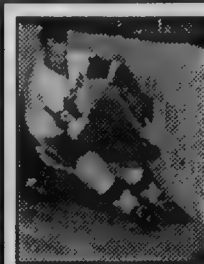
Two Cows in a fenced field...

There's a funny thing with cows here. These cows were at a ... get this ... a farm! Ha! Get it? Laugh.



SCUMshine girl...
PAGE 10

SCUMshine boy...
PAGE 14



Sports
Howe's it going, Gordie?
PAGE 9



Mike Roch

Express
Mike Roch longs for his own death
PAGE 11

OTTAWA TO BAN PICKUP TRUCKS

Klein says ban will cause suicide, unemployment, and teenage pregnancy

By HANSON BUTTS
Staff Righter

Get ready for an elitist conspiracy that's worse than shoving gay rights down our throats. The feds hope to cut greenhouse gases by banning all pickup trucks in the West, according to an anonymous source close to the Environment Minister.

Premier Ralph Klein says the ban on pickup trucks will destroy Alberta.

"Thousands of people will lose their jobs, their homes, and their dignity," he said. "This is the darkest day in our province's history."

Comparisons are already being made to the National Energy program, which is widely blamed for destroying jobs, choking Alberta's economy, and preventing the return of Jesus Christ to his rightful homeland of Fort McMurray.

A study prepared by a provincial scientist shows that over 80% of Alberta's economic activity will be shut down once the ban is imposed.

"The unemployment rate will skyrocket, and so will the number of unwed mothers," said Klein.

Hundreds of irate farmers are irate because the Grits are once again trampling on their civil liberties.

"First they took away my shotgun, and now they want my '53 Chevy. Have they no shame?" said one irate farmer from the Ponoka area. "Those flaming lefties and enviro-radicals are out of control!"

And religious leaders across the province fear the absence of

pickup trucks will distort Alberta's family values. "Without pickup trucks, how can we expect our young men to grow up straight?" demanded B.I. (Bill) Thumper of the Alberta Foundation for Fornication-Free Families.

"It's not right. Men aren't men without mudflaps and gasoline." Thumper also pointed to statistics saying that boys who grow up without pickup trucks have higher rates of impotence. He fears that the ban could lead to a provincewide epidemic.

Farmers and pickup truck lovers across the province are pressuring Klein to use the notwithstanding clause against the oppressive government ban, and The Edmonton Scum has joined the fight.

Readers are asked to clip out our protest coupon and send or fax it in to The Scum. The responses will be sent to the communist bastards who allegedly run our country.

Edmonton Mayor Bill Smith, fearing for his Jeep Grand Cherokee, has already joined the campaign. Other celebrity signers include Stockwell Day, Walter Pazkowski, Ted Byfield, and Reformers Preston Manning, Deborah Grey, and Adolf Hitler.

In a surprise announcement this morning, vegetarian singer kd lang also said that she would be signing one of The Scum's coupons. Lang also agreed to give up lesbianism as a condition of being released from gunpoint. Meanwhile, all 7 inhabitants of Dustbowl, Alberta, which is 792 km north of Calgary, have organ-



—BENDIN DO-ME, Scum

Above: Law-abiding Albertans Mr. Joe Blow and his wife/sister from Dustbowl, Alberta, sign on to The Scum's campaign for freedom. Stick that in your pipe and smoke it, Ottawa!

ized their own petition against the pickup ban.

A token environmentalist called Scum reporters to comment on the issue, but we had better things to do than listen to some eco-freak. Like betting on gerbil races.

Prime Minister Jean Chretien could not be reached for comment, but a spokesman for his office said he hadn't heard of any plan to ban pickup trucks.

Message to the Eastern Bastards

I reject any infringement of my constitutional right to drive a pickup truck.

Name _____

Address _____

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#250 4990-92 Avenue
Edmonton, AB T6B 3A1
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CONSPIRACY!

Welfare Sterilization Act set to protect hard working Albertans

By PHIL McRAKIN
Legislature Righter

Sherri Blame shoots crack, maims, and robs convenience stores, but her biggest crime is that she is a single mother on welfare.

Blame spoke to The Edmonton Scum, confirming that our long-standing suspicions were true: Liberal cabinet ministers from the east are penetrating our borders to penetrate our women.

Sherri told the Scum that fat cats from Ottawa, in a frenzy of illogical left-wing drug induced states, are coming to Alberta to impregnate female welfare recipients.

It's all part of an eastern-based NDP-supported plan to tie up Alberta's economy with lazy women collecting more and more money to support their bastard Liberal chil-

dren.

Thanks to King Ralph (or, the chosen one), a bold new law has been passed to stop this fiendish conspiracy in its tracks.

In a surprise meeting of the Legislature on Sunday afternoon, the King passed a law to sterilize every woman earning under \$10,000 a year, under suspicion of Liberal pregnancy. This means an end to Liberal half-breeds on welfare and also, an end to crime, violence, marijuana, and unhappiness.

All hail King Ralph!

Not surprisingly, the Undemocratic Party had something to say about it. But it wasn't particularly important. Besides, there was a drink special happening in the bar during Question Period, so I didn't get their dumb quotes anyway.

Robbers really rough up reporter

By I. WANNA BECOOL
Staff Righter

It was a dark and stormy nite last nite when approximately four or five big burly and mean-looking men went to rub.. or rob a Quiky Mart on 300 street and 211 Avenue. The robbery was in this city last nite, this reporter thinks.

The Scum got a fone call at oh-two-hundred and thirty-7 hours some-time last nite. I.. (no, can't use first person thingy — that'd be bad reporting).. this reportur waz summoned to take on this story.

At around oh300 hours, this reporter arrived at the 200 street and 311 avenue Quiky Mart and went

inside to take pictures and report on this centsless crime. Much to this reporter's souprise, the crime was still in progress when I got there. Nobody called the cops, not even the people at the Scum when the informannt called.

Because a crime waz being committed by three ugly-looking thugs, this reporter bravely decided to take it upon himself to call the police. To this reporter's surprize, the robbers didn't like what I was doing and one of the robbers allegedly slammed the butt of his rifle right up this reporter's nose. I bled and cried and the robber low-lifes laughed and the store

owner being robbed also laughed. This reporter was then promptly booted in the groin with a steel-toed combat boot by one of the thugs and then everything turned black. Now this reporter is in the intensive care ward of some hospitol.

In a fone call to city cops, they (those city cops) declined to tell us what else happened during the robbery and they were not impressed with this reporter. You're piss for brains, moron," commented the constible on this reporter's actions.

However, this reporter believes he's a hero... for trying to stop one of many terrible crimes in our society.

Deus ex machina in Edmonton!

God visits Scum editorial board for exclusive interview

By DORKUS McGORKUS
Staff Righter

Life is just a game. Now we have proof after a day of revelation.

In a statement released yesterday, God stunned the world when he announced he was just kid-

ding when he created us. Telling the entire world population to "Mellow the fuck out," He said we petty humans take things too seriously.

"Smoke some ganja, drink a brewski and go get laid. I created those things for a reason, but you retards had go make up stupid rules about them," said an obviously hip Almighty.

Then He snapped His fingers

and made the Reform Party disappear. God also said He was displeased with the U of A Political Science department, and said He would make Space Moose dean of the Faculty of Arts as punishment.

Later, He retracted his statement, saying it was just a test of our faith or something.

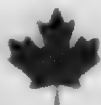
"But sex and beer are still OK by me," said God.

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Lordy, lordy, look who's forty!

'Dan' is old. We often wonder why he continues living, but he'll die soon. Good. We hate him.

LIBERALS ARE BAD!

Edmonton to host left-wing bashing good time

By JOSH SPIDERMAN
Staff Writing Good

Fire up the barbecue and sleep with your sister — the City of Champions is taking a turn to the right.

In an attempt to shake its liberal image, the Edmonton city council has announced it will enter a bid to host the 1999 Redneck Olympics.

"We done gots aur bid in dere, wit' dem bid takin' peoples," said project organizer Bubba Grubby. "Wees figgre we a-goan' be hearin' back frum dem fo' da hahvest be done," he said as he fondled a sheep.

The Redneck Olympics, started in southern Alberta in the early 1990s to celebrate

corn or some stupid thing like that, have grown over the past few years from a local gathering to an international event. It now draws people from farming areas all over North America to witness events like Beer Guzzling, Tobacco Juice Spitting, and Tossing NDP Supporters Off A Bridge.

Premier Ralph Klein backed the bid, and immediately had the Legislature bells reprogrammed to play "I Wish I Was In Dixie."

Organizers say if their bid is accepted, it should go a long way in redressing Edmonton's liberal image. "Once we gits sum da good ol' boys up aur way, dey gonna see we ain't all social welfare bum types," said

Grubby.

"Wif dere support, we can git dem lef' wing types outta da Legislature, and git down ta sum serious work, like reducin' environmental standurds an' gittin' rid o'dem human rights laws."

"BAAAA!" said his sheep.

Edmonton's favourite redneck rockers, the Yellin' Retard Cowboys, were at the kickoff to sing a song written especially for the occasion, "Kill The Eastern Bastards."

The Scum has it on good authority that nobody cared.

Left-wing supporters planned to picket the Legislature in protests. No one cared.

"Baaa?" said the sheep again to no one in particular.

DEUTSCHLAND UBER ALLES

Germany buys England, proving once again that capitalism is good

By SCHLONG DORKIN
EU Bureau Righter

It's enough to make you wonder who really won the Second World War. The government of Germany announced yesterday it has purchased Great Britain and Northern Ireland. Asked why his country would want to buy up a foreign nation, German Chancellor Helmet Cabbage said: "Why not? BMW bought out Rolls-Royce last week. This was just the natural next step."

British Big Cheese Tummy Hair was pleased with the deal, saying, "Thank God. Maybe the Krauts can knock some sense into the IRA. Plus I get a job as a tour guide at the remains of the Berlin Wall and me own lorry to chat up Judys in! But don't print that."

Inside sources, however, say the German government was leery over the idea of letting weaker

economies drag down the Deutschmark as Europe moves toward a single currency. Sources also say that Germany plans to buy up the rest of Europe to safeguard the value of the Mark.

The move will also allow Germany to set the rules and regulations for beer making, thus guaranteeing German consumers long-sought-after protection from that watered-down crap sold across the rest of the continent.

Russians across Russia were distraught over the prospect of being invaded by Germans — again. President Borus Yellin fired his entire cabinet in retaliation, got drunk on American vodka, and checked himself into a hospital for treatment.

Canadians had no comment on the incident. Well, some did, but I forgot to turn on my tape recorder. "BAAA!" said the sheep.

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Edmonton's Most Obnoxious Voice Comment

The Edmonton Scum, Monday, April 9, 1998



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Redneck Bureau of Propaganda Member

Say 'no' to gays

We think it's taking Ralph Klein entirely too long to enact the notwithstanding clause against gay rights. If homosexuals want special rights, then they should join a religious group.

It is an abomination against nature for consenting adults to willingly engage in non-reproductive sex in the privacy of their own bedrooms. The provincial government should install sodomy detectors on every street corner so that these filthy perverts can be brought to justice.

What's next? The legal recognition of pedophilia, bestiality, masturbation, and phone sex? Are women going to start demanding the right to be on top? The moral fabric of our society will unravel if we allow these unnatural urges to take hold of the democratic process.

All these so-called 'inviolable human rights' are nothing more than a left-wing conspiracy to trample on the rights of religious groups. Unpopular minorities should get only the rights allocated to them by the tyranny of the majority. If we want a strong economy, we can't afford to pander to every single special interest group's utopian vision of 'fair employment practices.' Why else was Hitler so successful in getting Germany back on its feet?

We should protest this contemptuous treatment by the Supreme Court. How dare they respect the supremacy of Canada's uppermost law, the Charter of Rights and Freedoms? How dare they bring Alberta in line with the overly permissive standards that every other jurisdiction in Canada adheres to? Oh, the arrogance.

This undemocratic decision means that religious beliefs will no longer be respected by the courts. All good business owners will be forced to hire token gays in the granddaddy of all affirmative action programs. Plus, all the little kids in public schools will be strapped down and subjected to gay propaganda for 8 hours a day, 365 days a year. This is a worse outrage than that most evil of evils, gun control legislation.

Ralph, your main option is to invoke the notwithstanding clause before your rural power base goes over to the New Democrats. Better yet, repeal the Human Rights Commission altogether, so that women and ethnic minorities can get what's coming to them. Represent those who elected you, not confused minorities.

The Scum stands by its guns – proverbial and otherwise – in commanding our democratically elected government to say no to gays.

Ima Redneck



Letters to the editor

Tom Smellsworth, Associate Editor, 468-0295

E-mail address, scum.letters@ccinet.ab.ca

I WOULD like to complain about an article published in The Scum on April 2. To begin with, I was severely misquoted by your writer. I do not believe that "better hairdressing" is all that the New Democrats need to succeed in Alberta. What I actually said was that the NDP needs to do better canvassing. Also, my name was spelled wrong. Referring to me as "Spam" Barrett is not only potentially libelous but a severe infringement of the worldwide copyright patent held on SPAM™. I hope that your paper will try harder to avoid such glaring errors in the future.

Pam Barrett

Leader, New Democrat Opposition

(Ah, put a sock in it, Pammy. What does a screaming leftist like you know about journalism? We think you should take a long walk off a short pier. Retard.)

LIKE TO point out that the feds are at it again. I was driving in the St. Paul area when I noticed that Girl Scout troops are being allowed to adopt sections of highway. Little girls shouldn't be anywhere near roadways, they should be safely at home learning to knit from their grandmothers. What's next? Flying paratroopers? Alien spaghetti? Giraffe semen? Will Jean

Chretien seek us all out and hit us on the head with his wooden loon carving?

Paren Oyd

Vermillion, Alberta

(We couldn't have said it better.)

KISS MY subscription goodbye. You ought to be ashamed of yourselves for not giving the fine sport of curling more coverage. My two daughters from Glendon, Alberta, won the Western Canadian Fantasmagorical Bonspiel this weekend, and The Scum didn't include even a sentence about it. In protest, I have chosen to stop reading all sections of The Scum except the comics and the Bingo.

Karen Forself

Nebraska, U.S.A.

(Blow it out your ear, crazy lady. The day curling gets coverage in The Scum is the day Jesus Christ returns to his rightful homeland of Fort McMurray.)

BUTT out! I am appalled by the way in which you mock the readers who write in to your newspaper. Every day, you make fun of those whose views you do not share. For shame. This practice is intimidating and shows that you lack respect for your audience. I would never speak to my

grandchildren like that. You should take your responsibility to the community more seriously.

Mildred Attenbrock

Retired

(Someone's got her crazy helmet on. You should be kept on a leash and made into pork chops. Save it for someone who cares, granny.)

MMMMM ... I am amazed by the high quality of your publication. Every morning, your page 2 stories brighten my day. Your News section is a paragon of objective journalism, and your Sports section covers this city's entire spectrum of athletic activity. Thank you, Edmonton Scum, for sticking up for the everyday Albertan.

A. Veragereader

Edmonton

(Now that's more like it. It's too bad we don't have the time to make up more good letters like this one. So get on it, readers!)

(The Edmonton Scum welcomes all letters to the editor. Please keep them brief and your sentence structure and words elemental.)

Letter of the day

BACK IN my day, we wouldn't stand for that deviant Delwin Vriend thing.

We would have rounded up the posse and gotten us a lynchin' party together.

It's you kids and your loss of morals and love for the good word of the Lord that is destroying this once proud land. I just hope that you'll all be happy when judgement day comes and you all pay for your sins.

The great lord Jesus almighty will come down upon you with all of the wrath of a millenium of being shunned by his children. It is stated very explicitly in the Bible that gays, women, immigrants and Liberals are put on this earth to be subservient to the wishes of the poorly educated, bigoted, sexist, and homophobic white men. Look it up, deviants: John 3:16.

Anyone who believes in God must also believe that intolerance and prejudice is the Lord's will. Heed my word, all of you perverted souls: heed my word. If you just lay down and accept my phallus, er, the Lord into your life, then you will be saved. Hallelujah.

The rev'd William James
Worldwide Church of God

(Words to live by, sir. We are all ashamed by your righteous wrath. We can only hope that those people are listening.)

Put the people back in their place

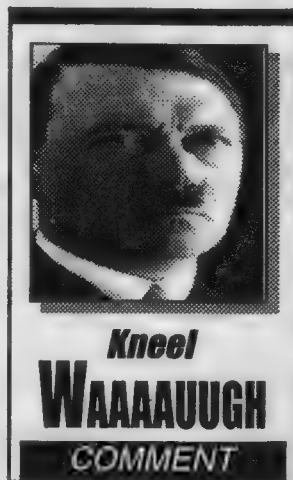
Ralph Klein, infallible human being that he is, is once again teaching us all a lesson about cool under fire.

It's been a week since the recent decision was handed down from the "Supreme" Court of Canada: the decision that essentially decreed that elected officials have less power than indentured bureaucrats; the decision that decreed that all gays must receive the same rights as humans; the decision decreed that (probably) all public schools in Alberta must hire gay teachers to sodomize the children.

The decision, basically, that real Albertans aren't free to decide who they are going to persecute and subjugate.

You would think that a decision like this would bring about a tumult of outraged voices in protest of this outrageous thing which is outrageous and also outrageous.

And so it has.



Just last night, the Edmonton Scum got at least four calls by the same outraged mental patient.

And sure, while he was just outraged about something completely unrelated and I'm just trying to stir up real protest, the point is that real Albertans are letting the government and Saint Ralph know that they will not stand for this travesty.

Calls have been forth-

coming to invoke the notwithstanding clause, and typical to his genius history, Klein has said that he will abide by the will of the judiciary.

Sure, Ralph. You sly little genius, you. Tell those people that. They'll believe you.

I know, however, what the real plan is.

It's just like dangling a carrot in front of a horse's knows. You're just letting the people know who is boss.

Yes, you could invoke the notwithstanding clause, but then you'd just be doing what the people told you. And, as we all know, an elected dictator never bows to the public demand.

Flex a little muscle, Ralph. We love it. Show us who's the boss, Big Daddy. Crack the whip.

People today are getting far too uppity: thinking they have power in our political system; demanding the same rights as you and me, Ralph.

Frankly, I'm sick of it and so should you be.

Put the people in their place, Ralph. You and me and whatever other fat old rich white conservative guys you can find will grab this country by the economic short-hairs and make it prosper once more.

Despite the unexpected oil revenues, you have managed to balance the budget and start paying down the debt all on the backs of students and seniors and the ill.

You should be proud of what you have accomplished, but your work is not done.

Once you have well and truly put the people back under your heel, I know that you'll do the right thing and crush both this undemocratic uprising and the sexual deviants with one fell swoop of your notwithstanding muscle.

Ralph! You are the greatest! I love you (but not like a queer). You know what to do. I know you'll do it, buddy.

The perils of the silly season

It is the start of the silly season. Your humble scribe is sitting at a seaside café in downtown Lotusland. My companion is a lovely young brunette in a fetching green dress. She politely informs me that she rather enjoys reading my column.

Methinks Dr. Blith has found himself an admirer. It occurs to me that she might also enjoy a trip to my hotel room. Over salmon crepes, I move to dazzle her with my scintillating wit.

Casually, I toss out the latest tidbit about President Unabanger and his phalanx of first ladies. Oh yes, she says. He works best from the Oval Offices in his underwear.

Ah, so you've heard that one, I say. How about that little guy from Shawinigan?

The only citizen in the country who can't speak either official language? she replies. The one who always looks like the driver of the getaway car? Yes, he's been up to his usual inaction.

Encouraged by her winsome smile, I bring up Parson Manning, the man who believes the Promised Land would be better used as a bingo hall.

Presto Chango? she asks. He's worked magic on his larynx, wardrobe, and hairstyle. It's too bad he hasn't made himself disappear.

This time, I catch a hint of annoyance in her mellifluous voice. As our waiter brings the duck à l'orange, I pause to reassess our conversation. Despite my sprightly banter, the vision in green who sits opposite me has not yet been won over. This delightful creature has matched me thrust for thrust. Clearly, a change of tactics is in order.

Confident that I can't go wrong with Captain Canada, I mention that the Tiny Tory Turncoat is our best hope to stop St. Lucifer's Neverendum campaign. Yes, yes, she says impatiently. Any fool can see that the man's wife cuts his hair. He makes Richard Simmons look like Patrick Stewart.

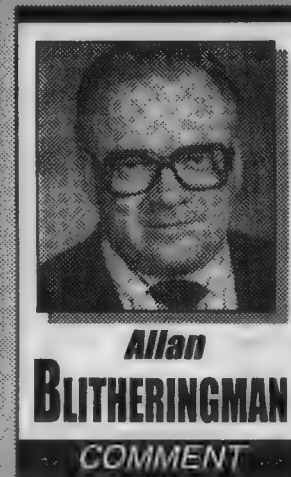
Hmmm... This does not bode well. I bring up Good Queen Bess and the Little Prince Who Would Be A Tampon, but she parries every blow. Eurotrash, she sniffs. That incestuous lot isn't fit to preside over a cat show.

This scribbler can no longer deny that the admiration of his dinner guest has waned significantly since the hors d'oeuvres. Perplexed, I finally ask her outright why she has been so unreceptive to my earnest advances.

Zowie, Dr. Blith, she says, her sapphire eyes open wide as dinner plates. Perhaps it's because I realized you're a dirty old man whose writing is really little more than a prestigious gossip column. Week after week, you trot out the Pinstriped Types on the back bench, the Canadian Broadcarning Castration, and the Prime Minister In Waiting. You have nothing new to offer me. I've read it all ad nauseum.

She stands up and tosses her fine linen napkin into my chocolate mousse. I thought you would be more interesting in person than in print, she says with a contemptuous glance. I was wrong. I tire of your endlessly recycled jokes and your ridiculously pompous name-dropping.

And with that, her divine form glides away, leaving me with the table to myself. And the check. How I despise the silly season.



The family values of health care

While I was waiting in the parking lot to pick my son up after school last week, I saw something that almost convinced me to finally pack up and move to the States, where men are men, women are women, and politicians are men who know what to do with women.

I was sitting in my air-conditioned car when a 10-year-old boy ran across the street to catch the bus. Unfortunately for him, he didn't see the oncoming pickup truck.

The boy was knocked to the ground and left for dead by the hit-and-run driver. A number of teachers and parents immediately ran to his aid. Within 15 minutes, an ambulance had arrived to take him to a hospital. Half an hour after the accident, he had been cleaned up, stitched up, and was on his way home with only a few bumps and bruises.

This little episode is a prime example of what ails us as Canadians. We're facing a crisis of family values in this country, and it's caused by our bloated system of socialized health care.

That little boy learned nothing from his accident. If



he'd been hit by a car in the States, he'd probably still be scraping himself off of the pavement. As he hobbled home with bleeding appendages and a pulsating concussion, he would have had ample time to reflect on the error of his ways. The lesson not to jaywalk and interfere with the mobility rights of vehicle owners would have stayed with him his entire life.

But in Canada, the boy learned that if he breaks the law by crossing the street at the wrong time, the nanny state will pick him up, wipe his nose, give him a lollipop, and send him back out into the mental fog that accompanies a lack of personal re-

sponsibility.

Americanized health care is the best thing that could happen to this country. You don't really understand family values until you've seen your loved ones bleeding to death on a guernsey in a crowded emergency ward.

When your mother has a gaping, gangrenous abdominal wound and none of the doctors will even acknowledge you until you wave a \$50 bill in the air, you get your priorities straight pretty quickly.

You cherish every moment that you spend with your loved ones, because you know that they could fall prey to a freak accident at any moment and no one would lift a finger to save their lives.

You learn to value money and private property, since these two things are the only true routes to a happy family life. You learn to carry a credit card at all times, because no one will pick up the bill for you.

But most of all, you learn that you're responsible for your own well-being, and that any form of collective action is a communist plot designed to strip you of the dignity of being the sole provider for your family.

Just as surely as the sun rises in the East, the free market leads to peace, harmony, and social unity. The Americans are a much calmer, happier people than we are, simply because they don't have the burden of socialism weighing heavily on their minds. Their national crime rates reflect the tranquility that they all share in their souls, and their divorce rates show how strongly the free market shapes family values.

Ah, America. The land of the free and the home of the brave. Where personal virtues like compassion and integrity must bow down to the almighty dollar. Where every man is equal, so long as he can afford to be.

But I'm no dummy. Until my tax fraud is discovered, I'll be staying in Canada, where I can espouse free market values to my heart's content but remain secure in the knowledge that all my medical expenses will still be picked up by the feds.

Oh, and as for my son? I'll be teaching him a lesson that he won't soon forget. I've already ripped off all the stitches and casts the doctors put on, and I'll make sure he learns about jaywalking like a true capitalist.

LEFT-WING DINOSAUR BANNED FROM COWTOWN

The dinosaur that children love has become the purple-headed bastard they hate, since he votes Liberal. Barney the Purple Dinosaur has been banned from doing a Calgary show after his pinko tendencies were discovered during the last federal election.

"We hate them liberals," said Isle Do'er, mayor of Calgary. "We certainly can't have liberals over-running our towns and cities and voting for people who support social programs and such."

Calgary's officials, when first informed

of the awful truth about the popular dinosaur, considered retrofitting the Saddledome with two-stage rocket boosters in order to launch the purple menace into space, but no one in Calgary could figure out how to use the phone to call NASA. "We figured that banning the freak was the only option, after our 'rotary/touch-tone' dilemma," said the mayor.

"Just imagine all the warped things he would teach our children. His show is for dum-dums anyway," said Do'er.

Lib-loony family planners were visibly

upset by the news.

"This could have traumatic effects on children for generations to come. We all need heroes," sobbed Dianne something or other. Doesn't she know kids should be playing with guns and pretending to be cowboys or soldiers everyone if they want to grow up to be real men? Loser.

"He didn't even have a cowboy hat. He still doesn't have a cowboy hat," Do'er said.

Soon after that, he pooped his pants and humped a cow.

Hoax Romania

Rome — (KP) Historians were red-faced today when they announced that the Roman Empire, long thought to be one of the founding civilizations of the western world, was a hoax. The Mediterranean world was, in fact, ruled for thousands of years by Portuguese cheese makers. Julius Caesar and his successor Augustus Caesar, long thought to be early rulers of the Roman Empire, are actually Portuguese words meaning "big cheese" and "bigger cheese." Neal Ozano declined to comment on his role in the matter.

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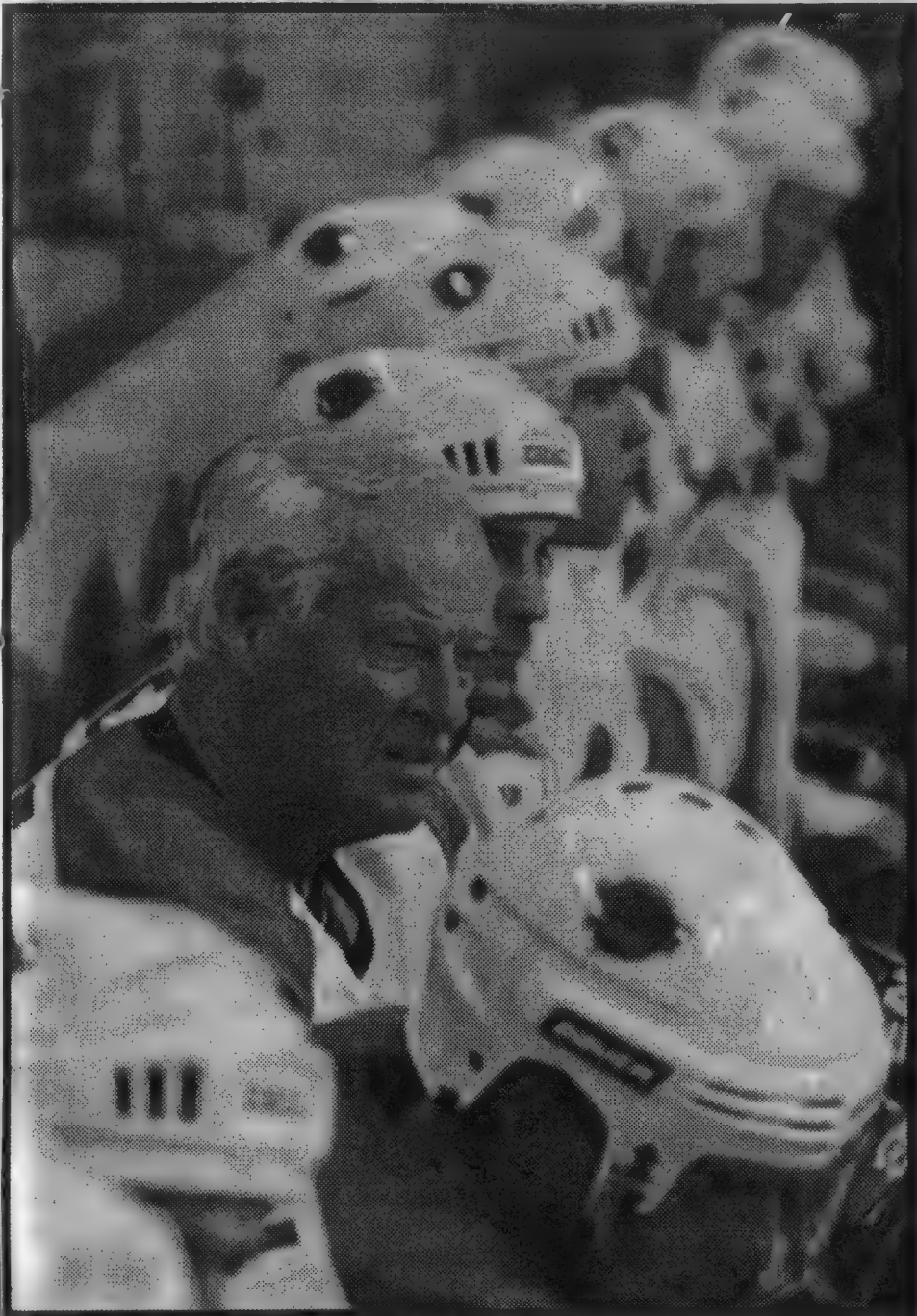
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SCUM SPORTS

GO! OILERS (GLEN) GO!

Thursday, April 9, 1998

Oh, Howe sweet it is!!



— DORKUS MAGORKUS, Scum

The illustrious Mr. Howe, the king of hockey, who will wear the blue and orange next year. Whooppeeee!!!!

Hockey god Slat's pulls off ice miracle

Hockey hero Glen Sather has done it again.

Although his already great team, the Edmonton Oilers, is always super-dee-dooper, Sather has pulled off yet another amazing trade.

In a show of great insight and intelligence (as always!), Slat's (the Man) acquired some age and experience for his unaged and inexperienced team.

What a bargain!!!!

It's hard to believe, but Sather has done the impossible and coaxed the reluctant Gordie Howe out of retirement.

That's right, folks! Mr. Hockey is here, and for the great bargain price of only \$5 per season.

"Of course, that's in today's dollars. We can't forget about inflation," said my good buddy Glen.

That's right: Mr. Howe has agreed to play for the same salary he received in his first year of professional hockey, back in 1927. Wow, seems like just yesterday, doesn't it?

For those of you who aren't old as dirt (like me), Gordie Howe used to be a really good hockey player back when they used to ride horses to games and hockey hair hadn't become popular yet.

In his prime

The fabulous Mr. Howe, who was signed to a ten-year contract, is currently in his prime.

Although we think Mr. Howe is about two weeks older than God, he is in prime condition, says Sather.

"Gordie has never been in better shape.

Sure, he's no spring chicken, but as every good hockey fan knows, it's the heart that counts. And heck, Gordie got a new one just last year," said Sather.

That's not all ...

And that's not all Mr. Hockey got replaced this year. When he laces up the ol'skates for the almighty Oil, Mr. Howe will be gliding around the ice on two brand-new hips.

Yup, the Oil sure did swing a sweet deal in securing a hockey pioneer for the next decade.

In other news

The Oilers win the Cup! Well, OK, not yet ... but they will.

Yes, I believe firmly in our tough, though somewhat troubled, boys.

Sure, they've got a record of 3-54 this season, but it's their effort that really

matters. They try really hard.

Those boys go out there every night and give it their all. Heck, last week they only lost by 5 to Calgary. They're really on the way to success now! What a great bunch of guys.

Yup, I just can't say enough about how terrific our Edmonton Oilers are.

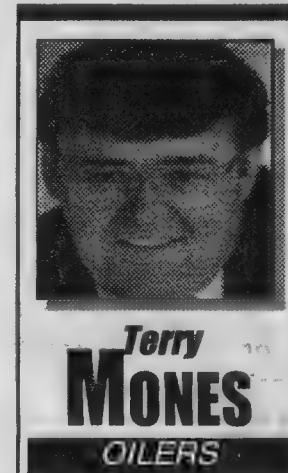
Heck, I'm thinking of moving over to the Journal just so I can be a shareholder, too.

Other sports

Other sports. What other sports? As far as I know (and I know a lot) there is nothing outside hockey and the Oilers. Back to them, then. I just can't get enough of the boys in the ol' blue and orange.

How about that Dean

McAmmond? Pretty cute, eh?



Sather: The Man

SPORTS SWAP DROP SOAP
IN SHOWER
funny!





The Cumming Shot!

By STEVE SIMPLETON

Don't count your blessings before they're hatched

NEW YORK — Cars and birds are in the zone: not enough action in the soft and squishies.



The amazing thing about the NHL season: the intermissions are longer than the games — just one humble man's opinion: hey, what if: hey!

Where was **Lucius John Inglesad** when we needed that time. When we needed him. That game, that we both saw, should have been a team and hire or fire that coach.

SCENE AND HEARD: How about the time that the irascible **Yogi Bera** was playing in Wrigley field and, as he was warming up in the batter's box, a **woman fan** called down at him, "Hey, Yogi! You suck! Yer gonna strike out, ya bum!"

Yogi, ever the quick wit, responded promptly with "Yeah? Well fuck you, ya dumb bitch!"



**Optimus
Come Back**

My definition of enthusiastic reporting: venerable Hall of Fame broadcaster **Harry Carey** was calling a game down in Detroit during the seventies. Outfielder **Ben Dover** made an outstanding catch at the wall.

This was Carey's call: "Here's the pitch ... and it's a hit! It's going for the wall ... going ... going ... Dover's gonna make a play for it ... it's gonna be close ... he ... it ... Holy Shit! What a catch! I can't believe it! I think I just shit my pants! Hot damn!"

Now, that's getting involved in the game.

AND ANOTHER THING: **Glen Sather** is supposed to be this great GM, right, but how come he's got another losing season. If he was a real man, he'd get a good team together or else be a morbidly obese hack for a daily tabloid who sits in a couch all day and whose ankles would probably snap if he ever actually laced up the skates.



**Davey H.
Gone Soft?**

And how come I ain't never won no awards for this awesome article here? I mean, it's brilliant right: poorly written, esoteric, hopelessly lame and uninteresting I could go on but do I need to. And hey, **Vlad Konstantinov**, if you're so tough, how come you're paralyzed now?

Wait ... is that ethical? Wait, need some more **bolded names** so people will think that there might actually be some content in this trashy piece of tripe: **Gordie Howe** and **Bobby Orr**. There.



**Jack
Diddley's**

**SCUMshine
GIRL**

SUZZEE, 14, needs the money, enjoys MacGyver and wants to be a marine biologist. She is looking for a man who won't beat her.

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Spice Boys cometh

New 'pop' sensation set to take the stage

I wish I was dead. I swear to Christ. 45 damn years old and I'm writing about a new teen heart-throb band called "the Spice Boys." I may as well be working for Tigerbeat.

Yeah, that's right: the Spice Boys are coming. Big whoop.

As many of you may know, the plan to create the Spice Boys – the male equivalent to the mega-stars Spice Girls – has been brewing around the offices of Virgin Records for some time.

Plans were, however, put on the back burner for more than a year because, as Conn Trived, vice president Prefabrication for Virgin, says, "The time just wasn't right. Also, we wanted to make sure that whatever we did wouldn't hurt the positively obscene profits we were making off of the Spice Girls."

Now, however, with the recent downturn in the popularity of the group, Virgin thought it was an ideal time to introduce the Spice Boys. "Well, really, we just wanted to milk this honey-ride for as long as possible before the floor fell out from beneath us. I mean, when you con-



**Mike
ROCH**

EXPRESS

sider that they're all pretty terrible singers, atrocious dancers, totally lacking anything remotely resembling talent, and aren't even all that attractive ... well, let's just say that I ain't complaining about the Spice Girls not making enough money for us."

When asked if Virgin planned to try a new approach with the new Spice group – perhaps include talent or brains in the qualifications of a member – Trived shook his head amiably. "Nope. Nope ... I don't think so. You see, if I had done this two or three

years ago, I would have said yes, definitely. But now ... well, if the past year and a half has taught me anything, it's that I don't really know anything about this business.

"I mean, who'd have thought that a quintet of girl 'musicians,' who not only can't play any instruments but also need backup singers to perform live, would be able to parlay the insipid catch phrase 'Girl Power' – which, as far as any of us can tell, has more to do with girl objectification and exploitation than any particular empowerment per se – into countless millions of dollars in revenues for record company execs who don't even listen to music?

"Nope. I'm not trying anything new. If anything, the Spice Boys are far less talented and attractive than the Spice Girls ever were. Frankly, these guys are total morons. The public should eat them up."

Mike Hunt, public relations co-ordinator for the new supergroup, agreed vehemently. "Those sods couldn't find each other's arseholes if I drew them a map," he explained. "The worst kind of Scowzer street trash we could find, and that's no



Observe the Spice Boys as they pitch product. Pretty Spicy.

exaggeration."

These claims appear to be more than well substantiated when you look at some of the comments made in the past by 'Rummy Spice,' the self-appointed spokesman for the new group. When asked what it was that made the group distinct from their female counterparts, he responded, "What? Are ye bleedin' daft, man? Do I have ta whip out my pecker right here for yas, then? Fancy a poke in the arse, then, do ye, ye fuckin' Yank? What kind of question is that, now? Cor."

When questioned on whether he thought the group would make it big or not, he responded with characteristic aplomb: "Eh? Now how the 'ell should I be knowing that, wot? Look like a sodding fortune teller, then, do I? Look here, bloke, all I know is that I'm getting a lot of bleeding money to sit up here and to mum-

ble some tunes into a mike. A lot of bleedin' money. And as far as I give a shite, it could all end tomorrow and it would be absolutely bladdy radge wiv me. Absolutely bladdy spot on, and tha's the truth."

It appears that Rummy Spice – along with his band-mates Hooligan, Monobrow, Spotty, and Skinhead Spice – certainly has his priorities straight. They are poised to take the world by storm when their new album, appropriately titled *Supergimmick*, featuring their unique brand of bland rhythms, predictable melodies and disharmonious caterwaulings, reaches stores on April 22.

Given the appalling lack of taste of the majority of consumers, it is a pretty safe bet that I will be writing about the Spice something-or-other for at least the next couple years of my life. Oh God, I wish I was dead.



Facts on the Spice Boys:

Founded in 1998 by the Virgin Record Corporation, these five wonders of music came from the dirtiest streets of the United Kingdom.

Skinhead Spice, formerly known as Gib Fantano, is a Neo-Nazi who hates all immigrant groups. The initial idea was to call him "Crazy Spice" but he felt that

that was too ethnic and beat the hell out of the exec who suggested it.

Hooligan Spice, Mike Lawry, loves football (soccer) and proudly sports the lowest IQ of the bunch. He is a retard.

Rummy Spice was born Jake Dugan and often expresses his fondness for "shagging." That means carpeting, we think.

Monobrow Spice, who entered this

world as Francis Jumas, has only one eyebrow, stretching from one ear clear across to the other. He is really gross.

Spotty Spice, formerly Chesterfield Ogledy, initially wanted to be known as "the Great Cornholio," but high-ranking officials in the company nixed him. He has a lot of pimples, which those Brits apparently call "spots." Crazy, huh?

It's time to spank the naughty

DEAR ABBEE: Yesterday, I came home early from the bridge club and — oh, my stars — lo and behold! There was my blessed hubby with some crimson hussy! (I say crimson because I hadn't seen her head

at first.) As it turned out, the hussy was none other than our buck-toothed next-door neighbour. Well! My husband said that he was getting something out of her eye, and I trust my dear husband because it's what cements a long lasting

marriage.

Anyway, the next day when my hubby and I were ... well, gosh ... you know...well, I noticed it. Oh sure, he called it a cock ring, but I knew it was that slut's retainer. I can't but think this might wreck our happy little home. What should I do, Abbee?

MISS MUFFET IN MINNESOTA

DEAR MISS MUFFET: Well, here's what I would do. First of all, if I were you, I would grab your neighbour by the ear, turn her over your knee, and give her a good spanking. Spank her a lot, again and again ... oh ... and again, and AGAIN! Oh my!

Take her to your bedroom, making sure to grab your husband on the way, and strip them both down for a vigorous beating. You might want to get naked for this yourself; a good paddler spansks better in the buff. Trust me: this is the only way they'll both learn the shamefulness of their illicit deed. You'll be doing them a favor out of the kindness of your good Samaritan's heart

...

DEAR ABBEE: I ... uh ... Geez, how can I put this? I want to get into sheep fucking. Lately, it seems that it's all the rage. OK. There. I said it. Those cute little wagging tails of soft, fluffy wool are all I can think of when I wake up at night with a sticky wool sweater in my hands. All my instincts scream, "There must be more!" I bring a whole new meaning to counting sheep to go to sleep.

LUSTY FOR LAMBCHOPS

DEAR LUSTY: Cavorting with sheep is not in the Lord's plan. Read my lips: "SHEEP HUMMING IS A SIN." However, your wrongful impulses can be cured, albeit slowly. Here are the steps to becoming lustless for livestock. First, you want to gradually replace various aspects of the sheep that cause the attraction. Start with the species. You'll need a nice big wool sweater and a 20-pound Butterball turkey (Defrost first, of course). If you don't have a frozen turkey, borrow the neighbour's — or

better yet, borrow the neighbour. He or she might be more than happy to help out.

Next, put the sweater on the pseudo-lambkin, and make whoopee. After that, repeat the deed with progressively smaller foul or furry objects until you finish either with a Cornish hen, fuzzy dice, or a pair of ear muffs.

...

DEAR ABBEE: I LOVE your column! You've helped me through some tough times and you've helped me come to terms with the fact that there are a lot of weirdoes out there. It makes my problems look silly, really. I am proud of me! I have learned that it's alright to have sex with wild game, as long as they're dead. I am not a pervert. Thank goodness!

FRED

DEAR FRED: Actually Dad, you are a pervert. Please stop writing to me. You are not supposed to have this address. Oh yes, I also burned the reindeer suit. Kisses, kisses!



**Dear
ABBEE**

ADVICE

THANKS FOR A GREAT SCHOOL YEAR

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WAITING ROOM ROMANCE IS GOOD

By Louis B. Gobsome

Director Tobias Thomas rocks out. Hard.

His new film, *A Little Piece of Ass*, has everything you'll ever want in the lesbian/geek/boy-meets-girl film format.

Express had an exclusive interview with Thomas on Thursday, but forgot to turn the tape recorder on. Millions cared.

Westin Hotel dinner theatre veteran Andrew Bentona, who Roger Ebert once called "Jack Nicholson's retarded brother," plays Ross, the greasy, twenty-something, body-building, sex addict. Playing his love interest Tina is Lotta Bosom, who starred in direct-to-video favourites such as "Honey, I buggered the Children" and "Unnnghh!" for Kumpany Productions.

Also in the movie is Mollig Geschenk, a newcomer to the B-movie scene, who plays Stuart, the dorky math-whiz. Another new-

comer, Alexa Mbuto, plays Bujinatoriatoriandofina, the cruel lesbian friend of Tina.

The plot goes something like this: Ross, while working at Club Med, meets Tina, who enjoys copious amounts of sex. But Tina soon learns that Ross isn't right for her when he constantly forgets to put down the toilet seat, and always tries to beat her into submission using a piece of the tailpipe of his '76 Camaro.

While on one of her many trips to the hospital, Tina meets Stuart, a mathematician working for New York's department of Counting, and it's love at first sight. They hump right there in the waiting room, much to the chagrin of the other waiting patients.

After this steamy scene, Tina realizes that Ross must die, and enlists Stuart, as well as her lesbian friend Bujinatorina-

toriandofina, to do the killing. Complications arise when Bujinatoriatoriandofina realizes that she has fallen in love with Tina, and decides to kill Stuart as well.

Tina, heartbroken over the death of Stuart, returns to Ross, and he kills her. Then, Bujinatoriatoriandofina kills Ross, and then herself.

At this point, you'd think the film would end, hey? No such luck. Bujinatoriatoriandofina's dog Maleena goes on a long journey to find Bujinatoriatoriandofina's ex-lover Tunabreadjetfuel, who has the key to the haunted mansion on the hill, which is suspected of containing vast riches.

But Tunabreadjetfuel, distraught over the death of her master, jumps down a manhole, taking the mansion with her. It's cool.

Go see it. No. Don't. Bye.



— DORKACENA PRODUCTIONS

From left: Andrew Bentona, Lotta Bosom, Mollig Geschenk, and Alexa Mbuto in *A Little Piece of Ass*

LAST DAY OF CLASS

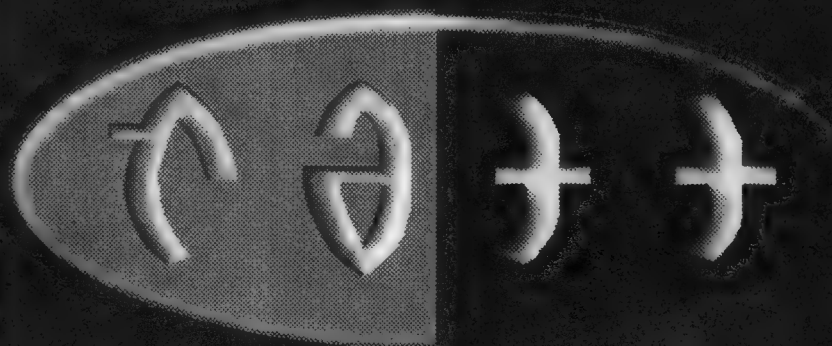
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Booking Deadline May 3, 1998.

Who's NEWS

DIRECTOR JAMES CAMERON was admitted to hospital earlier this week. His doctor says he was suffering from a severe case of *Titanicus Egosus*, which includes symptoms of a "delusional god-like complex, and constant repetition of the phrase 'I'm king of the world.'" His physician said that although Cameron has been suffering from the malady for years, it has worsened in recent weeks. However, Cameron promises that his illness will not delay the production of his next film, another disaster epic, *Challenger*.

SHANIA TWAIN'S Edmonton appearance has been delayed for several days



Country vixen Shania Twain free at last after being trapped in her jeans for three days.



James Cameron recuperating

following a scheduling change of all Twain's tour dates. The singer was trapped in her jeans for three days, following the inhalation of a deep breath during a rehearsal. The situation was resolved by pouring acid on the singer's legs to eat her Wranglers away. Her publicist expects no more delays to occur, "unless she breaks a nail or something."



Tommy Lee's new sex video due out soon.

Musician **TOMMY LEE** has a new video coming out — from prison. It is another sex tape along the same lines of the one released last year with Lee and his ex-wife **PAMELA ANDERSON**. The new video shows Lee receiving fellatio and having sex with the other male inmates at the prison where he is currently serving his sentence for kicking his pregnant ex-wife. Filmed on prison surveillance cameras in grainy black and white, the film is nonetheless of fairly

high quality. The video is expected to be hot property over the Internet.

PLANET HOLLYWOOD West Edmonton Mall is planning a gala for their second anniversary.

Expected to show are **Arnold Schwarzenegger's STUNT DOUBLE**, **Stallone's THIRD COUSIN LUIGI**, one of **Demi Moore's OLD BREASTS**, and **Chris Farley's CORPSE**.

The party is on May 5, and tickets can be purchased at the restaurant for \$56.99 plus GST.



Demi Moore's old breasts are one of many rare items to be displayed at Planet Hollywood's 2nd anniversary party in West Edmonton Mall. Dig it.



After discovering his long lost half-brother **Ted Fryer** and slew of new siblings, **ERIC CLAPTON** plans to form a new family ska band called the Claptones.

To fill in the role of keyboard player in the band, Clapton plans to use a ouijie board to summon his piano playing father **Edward Fryer's** ghost.

SYMPHONIC

By **JOHN CHARLES**
Express Writer

We all know you didn't go to the symphony this weekend. You might as well just admit it. You just don't have taste and refinement like I do. So, I'll just tell you what happened.

The first piece, Gershwin's "An English Patient in Paris," was great. Oh, the octaves, the timbers and the longitudinal waves following a complex addition of subharmonics!

Bikshod Musiguy was the guest soloist for the next piece, Bartok's 16th piano concerto.

It was so melodious that I could not stand it. The sharps were so sharp and the flats were so flat! A triumph!

The denouement was Mozart's "Rock Me Amadeus." I was in awe. That's all I have to say about that.

Conductor **Gory Noback** flailed his arms so passionately that I bet his cholesterol level is excellent.

I'd tell you to go next time, but honestly — we don't need riffraff like you. Stay home and watch *Friends* or something.



CHAD, a 27-year-old employee of Bubbles Car Wash, enjoys weightlifting and falling down stairs.

Anna Tomical's
SCUMshine Boy



MARTHA'S FAVOURITE PLANT OF ALL

Well, spring has sprung, and in this time of rebirth, my thoughts always fixate on my garden and the plants which shall soon bloom there. Downstairs in my new hydroponic garden, my favorite types of buds are ready for harvest, too.

While there is much debate about which is the best marijuana plant on the market, I prefer *Purple Indica* at this point in time. These luscious marijuana plants have branches which are approximately six inches long and two to three inches wide. Upon each are huge buds which are swollen and sticky. When they are ready for cultivation, there will be a fetid stench of dead skunk which will



Martha STEWART
ADVICE

permeate my manor.

HARVESTING: Cut your plants down and pick the buds off. Hang these fragrant bouquets upside down like dead fish around your house to dry out for two-and-a-half days. This waiting period is the perfect time to try out my new home tattoo kit. When you take them down, pull downward on the stalks to remove the goodies. Chop them up into baggie-sized portions and you are ready to go.

PROCESSING: To roll the perfect joint, or "spliff," many chefs, or "junkies," will use scissors or a good knife to chop their weed. I prefer an electric coffee grinder. It gives a good fine grind, and with very little mess.

Now, you are ready to roll.

PAPERS: When it comes to rolling papers, there can be no debate. Zig Zag White is the only way to go. It is the thinnest and offers the least resistance when rolling. For beginners, a filter can be used, generally a piece of cardboard from a cigarette package inserted at one end. Pros like me don't mind a little bit of marijuana in the mouth, though. It adds to the experience.

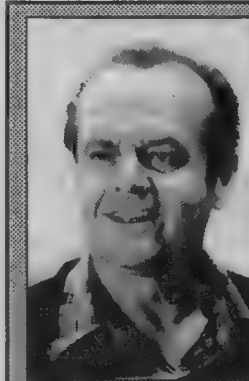
DECORATION: Another thing that adds to the event is painting a design on your rolling papers. It adds a decorative touch as well as an extra punch to your reaction, or "high." I love taking some of the marijuana extract, known as "honey oil," and using a small, thin paint brush to paint small patterns on the papers. The beautiful golden color and the extra wallop it packs shall make you the favorite provider on your block. When the patterns are dry, all you have left is to add the chopped weed.

ROLLING: Lay the paper out flat, now called a "rolly," and place a

pile of weed near each end, with a just a sprinkle in the middle. While rolling, the pressure of your thumbs will force the weed toward the middle, and create the perfect cylindrical shape you are going for. Other methods usually end up with too much weed packed into the center of your joint, creating a "pregnant fatty." With one big lick, tuck the paper over, and you are done. There is

no real need to twist the ends, unless you are preparing some for beginner smokers, who will need to know which end to light.

SMOKING: When it comes to lighting the joint, no special technique is necessary. Wooden matches are always aesthetically pleasing, though. So, fire up and suck. Enjoyment will follow, and maybe paranoia. Man, now *that* is living.



Wong



Nicholson

Look-alikes:

Can you say separated at birth? Boy, we sure can.

Emily Wong's friends think that she's the spitting image of Jack Nicholson, and we here at the *Scum* couldn't agree more. Like twins. It's eerie. Really damn wierd. Like, bizarre.

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The Edmonton Scum, Monday, April 9, 1998

SCUM 468-2401 CLASSIFIEDS

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3 bedroom available May, near Debajis. 10807 - 73 Avenue. \$725/month. 5 appliances. Recent renovations. David at 432-7733. See <http://members.tripod.com/~fourplex/>.

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Rooms for rent, Malmo bungalow. For details call Mike @ 436-0889.

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9 Bdrm Hsc, Avail: 27 Apr 98, 11054 86 Ave, call Greg V. or Jeff or Mike @ 439-4078 day, 439-4078 eve, \$250/mo, \$250/dd, incl: pwr heat water phone cable; No pets, no smoking, bath, kitchen, washer, dryer, walk UA, stall+plug for \$10/mo, can be furnished, Fully furnished, all appliances, all kitchenware, television, Jacuzzi, sauna, cable TV, 6 bathrooms attached garage.

U of A Revenue Property. Character home, 2 storey style in good condition, oak floors, 5 bedrooms. Just steps to U of A campus. Presently fully rented. Call Lillian or Jim Hladky @ 468-2100 to view. Coldwell Banker Panda Realty.

6 bedroom house, 2 baths, 2 fridges, dishwasher, 7 appliances, excellent heating bills, well maintained. Rent \$950 May 1. Phone 435-5826.

Room for rent, U of A. Newer home, separate entrance, shared bath and kitchen with one male grad student; no smoking or pets; May 1; \$200, utilities included; fully furnished; 435-5826.

These are Asia Pacific Pass offer highlights intended to create consumer interest. Before purchasing, you must review the full offer terms and conditions. To do so, please obtain a 1998 Asia Pacific Pass brochure from your travel agent or call 1-888-606-8353. Price does not include most Asian government fees and airport departure taxes in Asia (some exceptions apply). Seniors aged 55 or over and full-time students 26 and under qualify for the \$1,449 fare. Travel valid only for the dates shown. Longer travel periods and summer travel cost extra. Complete itinerary must be selected before departure. Prices are subject to change and seats for this offer are limited and may not be available on every flight. Advance reservations, advance ticketing and minimum/maximum stays apply. No refunds after tickets have been issued. Changes subject to fee of \$200 per ticket per occurrence reissuance charge. Available to Canada residents with Canadian mailing addresses only. Payment by personal cheque or travel agency cheque for IATA agents holding CX CIP only; no credit cards accepted. Asia Pacific Pass tickets earn frequent flyer mileage credit on Aeroplan only. This offer subject to termination without notice. Additional restrictions and conditions apply, see 1998 Asia Pacific Pass brochure for details.

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Healthy volunteers wanted for medical research studies. \$80 to \$200 paid. For information phone U of A 492-0617

Panic attacks? For info on research studies phone University of Alberta 492-0617.

Lost & Found

Lost Monday. Long Polo, dark blue, jean jacket from women's washroom in Humanities. Extreme sentimental value! Please contact 940-1551.

Lost: Any sense of restraint when making this very silly paper. But, we enjoyed it anyways. Ha - ha !

Pants. Where are they, Moose?

SMALL ANIMALS KILLED CRUELLY

by Kitty Sucker
Spum News

Not only are they draining money from taxpayers' pockets, now those welfare blood-suckers are draining life from cute little animals!

A widdle puppy-wuppy was found early Saturday morning just five blocks from the beer cans and disposed heroin needles of skid row, dead.

When he was alive, the spunky pooch answered to the name of "Lucky." Jethro Jed, his kindhearted papa, said, "We called him lucky when Ralphie-boy got elected to be Grand Cyclops, I mean premier. He's our hillbilly king."

It is obvious to reporters from the Scum that scratches found on the little fella's neck are the marks from welfare bums' well developed canine teeth, cultivated from feasting on Purina Puppy chow every night.

"The liberal establishment has gone far enough supporting these economic vampires; they must be stopped! How long must decent, tax-paying, hard working Albertans, who just happen to be married to their first cousins put up with such a blatant communist conspiracy?" said Jed.

"The only thing Lucky did wrong was trust those drunks and slobs on welfare," said Jethro, "They bit him up good."

SINGLE MOTHERS DESTROY SOCIETY

By KITTY SUCKER
Spum News

Sherri Blame shoots crack, maims, and robs convenience stores, but her biggest crime is that she is a single mother on welfare.

Sherri spoke to the Edmonton Scum, confirming that our long standing suspicions: Liberal cabinet ministers from the EAST are penetrating our western borders to penetrate our women.

Sherri told the Scum that fat cats from Ottawa, in a frenzy of illogical left-wing-propaganda-induced states are coming to Alberta to impregnate female welfare recipients.

It's all part of an east-based, NDP supported, plan to tie up Alberta's economy with lazy women collecting more and more money to support their bastard Liberal children.

Thanks to King Ralph (or, the chosen one) a bold new law has been passed to stop this fiendish conspiracy in its tracks. In a suprise meeting of the House on Sunday afternoon, the King passed a law to sterilize every woman earning under \$10,000 a year.

Pregnant women were obviously upset. That's what they get.

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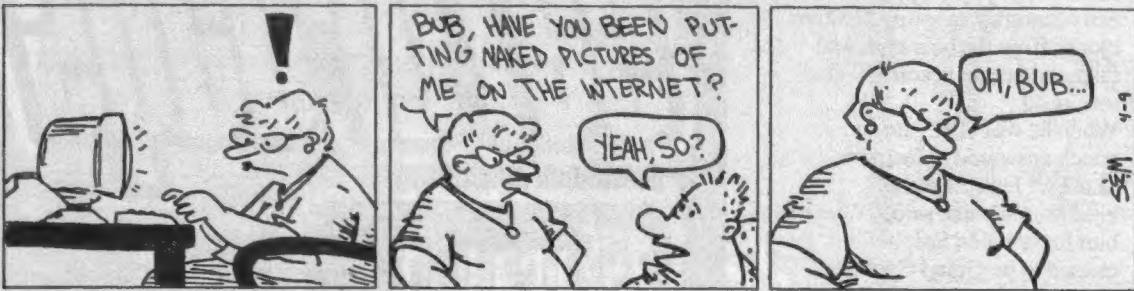
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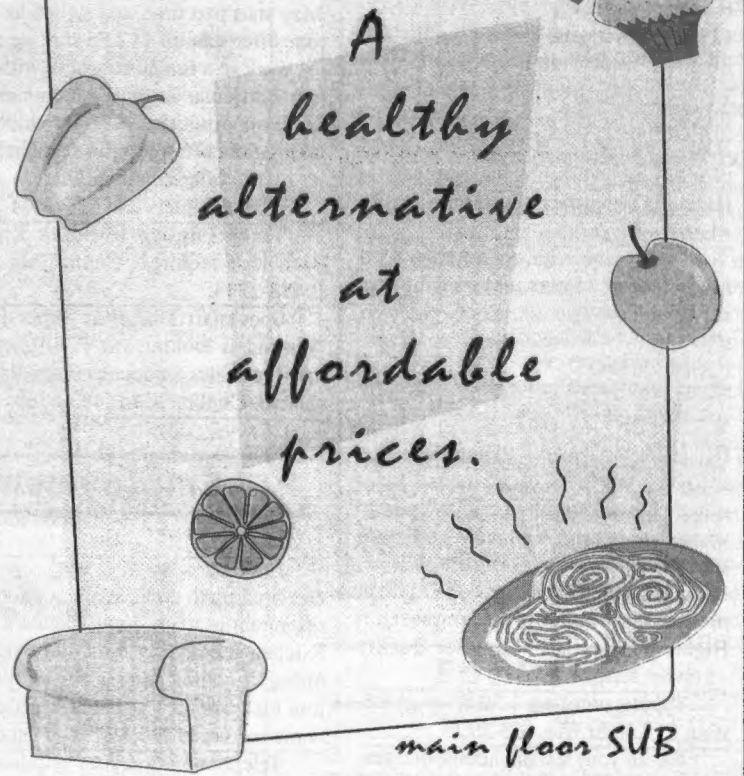
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WHOROSCOPE

Monday, April 9

You will be mortally offended by a publication created at the University of Alberta Gateway. Stay in bed all day to protect yourself from this assault on your sanity.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

Your time is now! Grab the brass ring, quit putting off that gender change operation, and become the man/woman you've always wanted to be.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

Don't be discouraged by others' opinions. Listen to your inner voice ... or voices. Your psychiatrist will thank you.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

Your repressed sexual rage will soon drive you to kill again. Relax and go for a long drive in the country.

CANCER (June 2-July 22)

Try hitch-hiking on a long country road. Perhaps you'll meet an exciting stranger. Then again, perhaps you'll be shot.

LEO (July 23-Aug 22)

They don't call you the Starship Enterprise for nothing. You've explored almost every frontier - transsexuals, seniors, pygmies, lawn furniture. Keep it up, there's a Siamese twin convention in town this month.

VIRGO (Aug 23-Sept 22)

Nothing happens. You suck.

LIBRA (Sept 23-Oct 23)

A charming young lawyer attempts to seduce you, but she's actually an undercover spy for the parking ticket people. Run while you still can.

SCORPIO (Oct 24-Nov 22)

Leaving nude Polaroids on a co-worker's desk was a step in the right direction. Now step up the attack and start leaving your underwear around the staff room.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 23-Dec 21)

Keep up the good work. You are a super-dee-duper person. Don't forget to see the Barney movie before you turn 24!

CAPRICORN (Dec 23-Jan 19)

The difficulties in romance you've been experiencing may be due to your lack of hygiene. Take a shower, scumbag, and then if anyone says you stink in bed, it's only due to your poor performance.

AQUARIUS (Jan 20-Feb 19)

You will visit a senior citizen's home and find yourself the most depressed person there. Sign up for Prozac now!

PISCES (Feb 20-March 20)

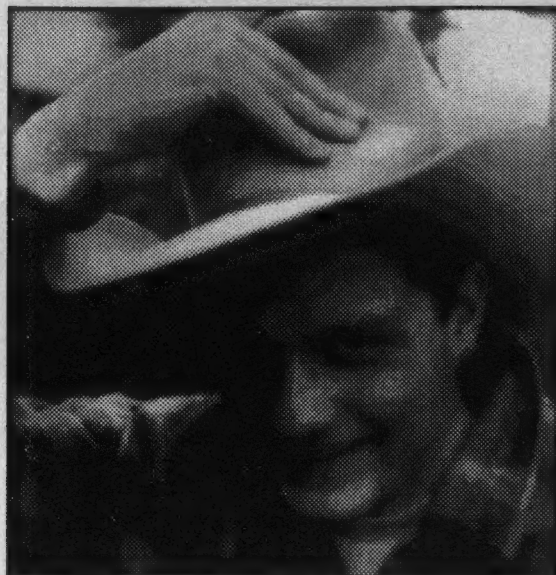
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